

Tanner 718

Naval Speculations,
AND
Maritime Politicks:
Being a Modest and Brief
DISCOURSE
OF THE
Royal Navy
OF
ENGLAND:
OF
Its Oeconomy and Government,

AND
A Projection for an everlasting Seminary of
Seamen, by a *Royal Maritime Hospital*.
WITH
A Project for a *ROYAL FISHERY*. Also Neces-
sary Measures in the present War with *France*, &c.

By *HENRY MATDMAN*.

London, Printed by *William Bynny*, and sold by *Sam. Manship* at the
Black-Bull in *Cornhil*, and *J. Fisher* at the *Postern* between the
two *Tower-hills*, and *A. Feltham* at the *Parliament-Stairs*, and
M. Gillyflower, in *Westminster hall*, 1691.

Thom-Tanner 718

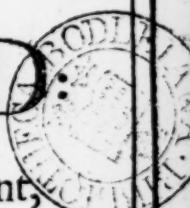


*When England's Rule in Brittish Seas doth cease,
Farwel their Wealth, their Glory and their Peace.*

F. H. van. Hove. Sculp.

Tanner 710

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117 120-12

To the Right Honourable

T H O M A S

Earl of *Pembroke* and *Montgomery*,
Baron *Herbert* of *Sherland*, Lord *Parre*
and *Ross* of *Kendale*, *Fitz-Hugh Mar-*
myon, and St. *Quintin*, Premier Com-
missioner for Executing the Office of
Lord High Admiral of *England*, &c.
And one of His Majesty's Most Ho-
nourable Privy Council.

Right Honourable,

THE Author of these ensu-
ing Sheets, approaching
towards the finishing his
Thirtieth Year, from being Im-
A 2 ploy-

The Epistle Dedicatory.

ployed a Warranted Officer in divers of the Ships of the *Royal-Navy*; during which time, by means of his negotiating through the Offices thereof, being many ways Employed therein; as also his sundry Voyages made into Foreign Parts, employed in the said Ships; and in divers Fleets, Battles, General and Particular; in all which Times, Places, and Occasions, he hath been a true Observer, and diligent Inspector into the Proceedings, Actions, and Methods thereof: And that his weak and small Genius in so high Concerns, and weighty Affairs,

The Epistle Dedicatory.

fairs, might not be altogether Abortive in his Speculations, through the whole Series thereof, he hath presumed, according to his Abilities, to commit the same to Writing in these few Papers, with his Sentiments Thereon: And now chiefly when the Nation hath so lately undergone such great Revolutions, and yet lieth under the heavy Pressures of *Foreign Wars*. And understanding your Lordship hath slighted your Ease, in these Days of Softness and Effeminacy, and condescended to take upon you a Post, wherein you may be most serviceable to Their

The Epistle Dedicatory.

Majesties, and Their Kingdoms, in the Management of Their *Royal Navy*, in these Times of threatening Dangers. Even as all small Rivolets hasten to the great Rivers, so he from his acknowledged Duty unto Your Lordship, inflamed with the Fame of Your Lordship's Indefatigable Industry, to Inspect the *Navy* for the Advancement thereof in all Military Executions, to Promote and Maintain, the Right and Dominions of Their Majesties, and Their Kingdoms in the Seas. He presumeth therefore humbly to Dedicate these unworthy Papers unto Your Lord-

The Epistle Dedicatory.

Lordship's favourable Perusal, that if perhaps Your Lordship shall find any thing therein, which may conduce to the ends aforesaid, he shall heartily rejoyce, to be so happy in contributing, though never so small a Matter, towards Your Lordship's Attainment of Your Desires : And knowing there can be nothing of this Nature written, but some will be Male-content, and spurn at the same ; and perhaps, think that the Bolt is shot at them, which will be their great Mistake ; yet may their Malice stretch so far, as may be to the injury of him, and his Innocent Indeavours :

A 4

Where-

The Epistle Dedicatory.

Wherefore he humbly prays Your Lordship, favourably to Pardon the Errors therein, to accept his well-meaning Endeavours, and also take him, and it, under Your Lordship's Shadow and Protection; and screen them from the scorching Fury of the Malicious: And that Your Lordship's great Industry and Endeavours, may prove to the Advance of the *Naval Affairs of England*; to the Overthrow of the Enemies of our *Maritime Peace*; to the settling us in our *Maritime Dominion*; to the Honour, Safety, and Wealth of Their Majesties, and Their Kingdoms; to due Honour and Praise
to

The Epistle Dedicatory.

to Your Lordship for Your great
Care and Labour, and all to the
Honour and Glory of God, is the
Prayer of

Your Lordships most Humble

and Obedient Servant,

Henry Maydman.

T H E

The first of the year

was a very cold day

and the wind was very strong

and the snow was very deep

and the ice was very thick

and the water was very cold

and the air was very dry

and the ground was very hard

and the trees were very bare

and the leaves were very dry

and the grass was very brown

and the flowers were very dry

and the fruit was very hard

and the seeds were very dry

and the roots were very hard

and the branches were very dry

and the twigs were very hard

and the bark was very dry

and the wood was very hard

and the leaves were very dry

and the grass was very brown

and the flowers were very dry

T H E

PREFACE.

I*T is high time to lay our Hands heartily to advance, and promote the growth, and strength of the Navy, when our Neighbours especially are so busie about the same thing ; and do make very large steps towards the pushing hard for the Supream Command of the Narrow Seas ; which is, and ever, from Antientest Histories, was granted, and accounted to be the Right of the Imperial Crown of England, whose Kings have always been very Jealous of any Competitor, or Rival, as an Italian may be of his Mistress : And they have not spared any manner of cost, of either Blood, or Treasure to maintain, and preserve it,*
when-

The Preface.

whensoever it hath been questioned; as it hath been often done in former times, as by History appears.

I mean, by Growth an Encrease, by a Progression, for all our Neighbour Nations doe so; so that my Thoughts drive me to Implore the King, and Estates in Parliament, That when it shall please God that Ireland shall be in security, that they would put themselves in such a posture of defence with France, as to the Naval part, that England must be content to be at that constant expence for many Years; I mean, to maintain such a constant force at Sea, sufficient to repel the Power of France, and so to continue it in a constant action; and never to slacken a hand, although the French shall decline Equipping of great Fleets, and shall only keep together a Body of a Fleet to act on a surprize of our lesser number of Ships, which shall pass the Seas together; or else to make some sudden Depredations.

The Preface.

pradations on our Coasts, or Descents into Ireland or Scotland, to fill our hands at home; I say, England must resolve to be at the constant charge, of keeping a great Fleet in continual Action, if ever the Nation hopes to have any Peace or Tranquillity; for it is only the Navy under its Monarchical Government, as in Church and State Establish'd, by God's Assistance, can bring any lasting Peace or Happiness to this Nation. It might be asked, what shall we do with them? I answer, It is easie to find them Employment, and that they bring in their charges, and make the Nation Rich; and how I will shew hereafter. It was observ'd by the Romans, in their Contest with the Carthaginians, that when the Carthaginians had given them a great blow at Sea, and Destroyed the greatest part of their Fleet, they despaired of Recruiting; but when they saw there was no safety for them, without they
did

The Preface.

did gain the Domonion of the Seas, they set heartily about it, (and in time) with many hard Tugs, and many great difficulties gained it; after which the Carthaginians declined, and in fine lay at the Victors Feet; who if they had maintained the Masterie of the Sea, had never Submitted to the Toak, but might have found them Work in Sicily, Spain, or in their Enemies Country; but for want thereof, had the War brought to their own Doors; for whatsoever Nation hath the Sovereignty of the Seas, shall be courted by all the World; for it is in his Power, to make any of the Nations in Europe, to live Unhappy, Uneasie, and in Poverty, and force them to keep the Product and Manufact of their own Countries to themselves, and shall not have any Commerce with any Forreign Nations, but at a deer and uncertain Rate; and for their Colonies abroad, will soon loose them: So it would
be

The Preface.

be a very great Policy in us, now in our Wars with France, to bid at a very great Rate, at all the Governments they possess in the West Indies: And also, to Scurve them from the Banks of New-Found-Land; It would utterly Ruin their Navigation at once, it being their cheif Seminary for Seamen, beside their Privateering; but for the handling them, I will leave it untill I have projected or found out a way for England to reassume her ancient Glory and Prowess, in her Naval Affairs, and the Command of the Narrow-Seas, which we have lost in a great degree; or at least eclipsed; the Reasons thereof I shall shew in the ensuing Discourse; the Recovery whereof, will cost great Labour, and much expence of Blood, and Treasure; which, if gained, will soon repay the Nation: And therefore it must not be grudgingly parted with, nor with slow and slack Proceeding gone about; but

The Preface.

but must be with vigorous Prosecution, and nimble Application followed, until the main point be over; the which, if not gained speedily, I fear it may prove too late afterwards: But hoping it is not too late already, I will address my self to a means, whereby we may assume our former Prowess. To compare our former Actions done, with hundreds of Men, and Cracknels of Ships, for about Thirty five Years past, with our Bulworks, or Castles of Ships, Multitudes of Men, and vast Expence of Treasure; for about Twenty five Years last past, and downwards, would find no Parallel, but be cause of Grief. For my part, I am well assured, That no Polity, or well-ordered Government, having been a long time in a well settled, and thriving Method and Government, can undergo any Material Change, without endangering the whole Polity thereof, to be unhinged and cast asunder, even as by taking

The Preface.

king away a Wheel, or Limb material of a Jack, Watch, or Clock; which puts me in mind of that old Maxim; that considerable evils, were better to be suffered in a settled Government, than to alter it, fearing it would break the whole Frame and Order thereof; and fearing, nay, knowing the Affairs of the Navy to have undergone of late great Alterations, which I fear, have broken the Frame thereof; and instead of Old and Landable Methods, there hath been introduced Novel and Troublesome Inventions, which have, and do nothing, but make a dust and smook about Business, and perturb, disquiet, and cloy the Affair, and perplex all that serve in it; making it dilatory and chargeable; for it serves as Mudding the Water doth to catch Fish; for Expedition is the vital Spirits of Naval Affairs, and whatsoever Methods procure, that with safety and less charge, must certainly be the better; for Method

The Preface.

is of great use in the Affair without, which it cannot perform any Laudible Action: It is even as Salt to season, without which it would be insipid; so likewise if you put in too much, it will be offensive; so is Method in Naval Affairs; if it be too copious, large and intricate, it proves as a Remora to Ships; It hinders, perturbs, opens the Doors for Delays, Pretences, and Protraction of Dispatches, so that the Affair is made Dilatory, Dull, and Heavy in its Actions; thereby to remove which, I will, by God's Assistance, shew in the sequel, which are the Novels introduced, and what the Antient, that the Good and Evil may appear; and what I suppose is hurtful to the Affair; and therefore to be expugned, and what of the Old Methods are best to be retained, and what New; that the Affair may resume its Renown and former Glory in the doing, which I shall be forced to open the Doors, almost of every Office,

The Preface

Office, and shew you what they do there, and tell you what is better to be done, and what left undone; but of each, I'll assure you, I will be very ~~brief and concise~~, and also, be very Tender towards the Affair; being not desirous to expose the Affair, nor any Person therein, to Obloquie or Contempt, and that my Proceedings therein, be not void of Rule or Method, I will confine my self to the Ten Heads, following, viz,

FIRST,

The Admiralty Office, or the Office of Lord High Admiral of England, &c.

The Preface.

SECONDLY,

The Government of the Navy Office.

1. *The Treasurer, and Treasury Office.*

2. *The Comptroller.*

3. *The Surveyor.*

4. *The Clerk of the Acts.*

5. *The Commissioner for Victualling
Accounts, the Clerk of the Petiti-
ons, and Clerk of the Ticket-Of-
fice.*

8. *The Commissioner for Assignment of
Cash.*

THIRD-

The Preface.

THIRDLY,

The Yards.

1. *The Commissioner.*
2. *The Clerk of the Checque.*
3. *The Master-Builder.*
4. *The Store-keeper.*
5. *The Master Attendent.*
6. *The Clerk of the Survey.*
7. *The Rope-house.*
8. *The other Officers.*
9. *The Officers of the Ordinary.*

The Preface

FOURTHLY,

The Victualling Office.

1. *A Comptroller.*
2. *A Surveyor.*
3. *A Treasurer.*
4. *An Out-rider, or Riding Surveyor.*
5. *Clerk Accomptant of Receipts, Issues, and Returns, a Clerk of the Actions of the Board, a Clerk of the Cutting-house, a Clerk of the Cooperidge, Cutters, Salters, Boat-Takers, and Wharfingers.*
6. *Agents, and Store-keepers abroad.*

FIFTHLY,

The Preface.

FIFTHLY,

The Clothier, or Slop-feller.

2. *The Purser, or whom the Slop-feller shall get to issue.*
3. *The Mariner Buying, and the Pay-master Defalking.*

SIXTHLY,

The Clerical, or Ministerial part thereof.

a 4 SEVENTHLY,

The Preface.

SEVENTHLY,

*The Government of the Ships at
Sea, viz.*

1. *The Captain and Lieutenant.*
2. *The Standing Officers, and the rest
of the Company.*

EIGHTHLY,

*The Seminary, and Maintaining of
Seamen, viz.*

1. *The Chest.*
2. *The providing for the Poor Male
Children of the Nation.*
3. *The Encouragement of Fishery.*
4. *Merchants Employments.*

NINTHLY,

The Preface.

NINTHLY,

*The necessary Measures to be taken in
our present Wars with France, and
in point of Balancing of Trade for
the future.*

TENTHLY and LASTLY,

*A brief Summary of the whole
Work.*

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in the month of July, of the year 1712, for
the purpose of

H. THE HISTORY

A brief summary of the whole
of the history of the year 1711, and
of the year 1712, from the month of June
to the month of July, of the year 1712.

The History of the year 1711, and
of the year 1712, from the month of June
to the month of July, of the year 1712.

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Naval Speculations,

AND

Maritime Politicks.

I. *Of the Admiralty, or the Office of Lord High Admiral of England.*

 HIS Office is of great Antiquity, and of as great Trust; for as far as I have read thereof, it alwaies was put into the Hands of some Peer of the Realm, or Relation of the Crown; of Experienced Fidelity to the Crown, and of known Wisdom, Valour, Conduct and Justice: I speak of that part of the Admiralty, which consists in the Managing

B

and

2 **Naval Speculations, Or,**
and Fighting of the *Navy Royal of Eng-*
land: There being also Dependant on the
said Office of Admiralty, all the Naval
Affairs, ~~that shall happen~~ between Na-
tives and Strangers, *viz.* Controversies
within any of the Bounds of our Seas or
Rivers, or any where else, if it come
within the Power or Custody of any of
our Admirals, or of our single Ships
of War, whose Case may be brought un-
der the Cognizance of the Lord High Ad-
miral, in his Court; where all Controver-
sies arising, are Pleaded and Judged by
Advocates and Judges, who are certain
Doctors of the Civil Laws, which is the
same in all Christian Nations; and on
which hangs all the Maritime Laws, An-
tient and Modern: As the Laws of the
Antient Romans, Phœnicians, Rhodians,
Carthaginians, the Laws of Oleoron, Prior
and Consul; the British, Belgick, and
Baltick Laws, are all grounded on the
Civil Law, the Municipal Laws of each
King-

Kingdom, State, or Province, only differing.

But my purpose being now to speak of the *Navy Royal of England*, of the Oeconomy and Government thereof, which is at present Executed by Seven Persons of Honour, thereunto Commissioned by the King's Majesty, to Execute the Office of *Lord High Admiral*; which is to Govern, Fight, and, if need be, themselves in Person to go to Sea in the Wars, or to Convey the King, Queen, or Royal Family, whither they shall Command them. And likewise to commission Admirals, Vice and Rear; Captains and Lieutenants, Judges and Advocates; as also Warrant Officers, *viz.* Standing Officers, such as Purser, Boatswains, Gunners, Carpenters, and Cooks of Ships, which are constantly bourn on Ships at Sea, or at home in Harbour, called Ship-keepers, or Standing Officers: All the other Warrant Officers, saving the Chaplains, are made by the

4 **Naval Speculations, Or,**
Navy-board, Chyrurgeons-Hall, &c. The
Admiralty also Commissions the principal
Officers and Commissioners of the *Navy*,
Commissioners and Warrant Officers of
the Yards; the particulars of which I shall
mention, when I shall come to treat of
them in their stations.

Now, in the Choice of all these Of-
ficers, there is and ought to be exceeding
great care taken, to choose Loyal, Va-
liant, Wise, and Just Men, Fearing God
and not Man, being well approved of for
setled Principles, to maintain the present
Government, both in Church and State,
according to the setled Laws of the King-
dom, ever since the Reformation. I say,
into the great and general Commands,
there should be such Men put, as was
never obnoxious to the known Fundamen-
tal Laws of the Kingdom. If there be
other Choices made, the Affair will go
on at an ill rate; and you will see Parties
made, and other Parties discouraged; who
will

will strive to promote and advance, all that are of that Party he does lean towards, and wavers in his Judgment towards others: And when he has the Scale of Justice in his Hand, and the Party he favours not, has sufficiently over-ballanced it, yet his Hand will be apt to shake, and give it a Tip the other way: I say, a Person that has been a favourer of those that have oppugned the well-ordered, and well-setled Church, the well-Constituted, Moderate, and Free Monarchy; The Subjects, I say, of this Monarchy, are Free Men, and not Slaves; Imprisoned, Judged, and Condemned, by their own Parity, and by no other Laws than their own Representatives makes, whom themselves choose; which Government is admired, and wished for in other Countries; I say, That Person will never Deal any Trumps to any Hand but to his own Party: Whereas Unity and Concord in any Polity, or great Affair, agrees with the Health

6 **Naval Speculations, Or,**
and Welfare thereof ; but Discord and
Division, I am sure, tends to nothing but
to Distraction and Confusion. The old
Maxim to *Don Juan de Austria*, in the
Netherlands, (of *Divide and Rule*) is not
applicable here. So that Division in any
Polity must needs weaken ; and on the
other side, Union begets Vigour and
Strength. As for Example, If a Man
had a great Family, and great Affairs go-
ing on, or some great Machin to make
or manage, I should wonder, if he should
choose for his principal Instruments, Men
of different minds, in most material Points,
whereby a Man is distinguished from a
Brute, *viz.* his Opinion of his Masters
Government of his Family, both in Spiritu-
als and in Temporals ; for if he wavers
in that Opinion, he can never be a good
Instrument in that Machin: But as his
Degree or Magnitude in that Affair is, so
will he the more or less clog and hinder
the Affair. As for Example, What was
designed

designed by God Almighty at *Babel*, by altering their Languages, but to confound their Works? It is indeed inferred there; that instead of Bricks they brought Mortar, whereby we understand it as construed only in the Labourers. But may we not infer, that the Overseers and Principals were also confounded? And may we not conclude, That the greater the Post is of the Dissenting Party, the more capable he is to bring or cause Confusion and Destruction? I am sure, in any less Affair it is also true. If a Man keep but two Servants to Work, if they alwaies differ and fall out in their Opinions concerning their Master, his Work goes on but slowly, and not with any good luck, nor can he hope to prosper; wherefore he were better to part with one of them, and take in another that is suitable to his mind, in his opinion agreeable to the former: Then will some be apt to say, That now he is like to thrive worse; for

8 **Nabal Speculations**, Or,
they agreeing so well in their Opinion of
their Master, in Spirituals and Temporals,
that let the one do never so much damage
to his Masters Service, the other will
never discover it; and so will they knit
together in the sin of wronging their
Master. But the other Party before, who
differed, is of a melancholly serious Tem-
per, full of thoughts, and but vainly te-
nacious of his own Opinion of his Ma-
ster. But notwithstanding that, he is a
true Servant, and will follow his Bu-
siness diligently, and neither do, nor
suffer to be done, any wrong to his
Master; a modest Man, for you may per-
ceive his Justice, the smallest things will
not pass by him, much more the greater;
and his tenderness of Conscience proceeds
from his Religious Mind. And a great
deal more such stuff, and kind of sayings,
may be objected against Unity or Uni-
formity of Persons, in the most material
points of a Christian, towards their Ma-
ster

ster or Governour. This is such counterfeit Ware, as hath been put upon the World so often, and so long already, (and known to be such) that I do admire in my heart, that it dares to appear any more, (I hope, it will not.) But yet out of the confidence it ever hath assumed, and observed to be well furnished with, and still laying hold of that Jesuitical Maxim, *viz.* That never let any denial slacken your paces, still, towards the attempting to be nearest, the greatest, and important Affairs, and in it, if it be possible; so that, let what will be uppermost in the State, yet in points of Spirituals, if it erect a Chappel, be sure to purchase a chief Seat in it; that he might appear a principle Member, but only to be in a Capacity to serve the Party; whose over nice Consciences will well reward their Jesuitical or Pharisaical Dissembler, with Huzza's of the Mobile, and applaud his Person in a Crowd, for that which they are told by
some

10 **Nabal Speculations.** Or,

some Body of him, of his Wisdom, Justice and Piety (of which he may neither be guilty, nor they care to know the Truth of what they say :) But this is all the while Trick, Intrigue, and Design, which hath gulled the World, and the greatest Men thereof; they being not deep-Sighted enough to espy it; but meerly Choused them of their own Reason and Justice, and put upon them that false and counterfeit Maxim, of, Let the Master of that great Affair, never take care of the said Servant, who had the right Opinion of him; but he being in the right Road, and a true Work-horse in the Team, give him little or no Meat, never stroak him; yet he will continue to Labour in his right Road, to his Lives end: But the other Servant, the Melancholly, modest, thinking Servant, as he was stiled even now; he must have the best Perferment; he being as a Resty Jade in a Team, he must be well Fed, have the best Harness, and
be

be well Stroaked, or else he will Kick and Fling, Strike at the Master, Start out of the way, pull Backwards rather than Forwards, and out of his Sullen and Dogged nature, overthrow the Load, altho it be to his own Ruine: But this is a very wrong Policy, not void of Injustice, Imprudence and Indiscretion, altogether impolitick, and long since experienced upon the first Broachers and Practisers of it: I will only affirm this, That the Man who is an honest, well-Deported, Temperate Man, capable of the business, Religious, according to the Established Government of the Church, and also of the State, never Starting nor Wavering; an Assertor of the moderate Monarchy of the Kingdom, as by Antient Laws settled, is the best, and most likely to do the Publick Service, without disquieting the Affair, void of all Trick, Intrigue, or Design; and the more Knowing, Able, and Just Men of such kind, are put into the Affairs of
the

the *Navy*, the better will it Prosper, and come into a Regular Government: And let Party-makers, Trickers, Designers, and such as carry half Faces, or, as I may say, changeable with the Times, let them know, that no Man in his right Senses, can deem them to be either Honest, Just, or Good Men, or of any Religion; whose Vertues lies hid in self-interest, which is the very Bane of all Governments of Kingdoms or States, Bodies Politick, Military and Civil.

Now, I say, if private Interest shall rule the Roast in this great Affair, whereon the Glory and Welfare of the Nation does depend, and Offices shall be disposed of to Friends and Relatives, or for Lucre, Bribery, &c. then may any one Judge, what Able, Qualified, Honest, and Just Persons will Trump up at such Terms; for the best and most deserving Men, will never buy their Chains and Fetters at such Rates (for so I may term them)

them:) For he that takes an Employment, or Office of Trust upon him, if he be a just and good Man, must reckon himself Bound, as I may say, in the Nature and Stile as an Apprentice to the King, in that Affair; and thus his Terms runs, and must be Employed to serve the King, Night and Day, in that Affair, and never to absent himself without the leave or Connivance of his Superior Officer, nor to dispose of any of his Time or Service to any other Master or Service; and for his Reward, to have such Allowaoce of Wages, Diet, &c. Now, if this Man does Honestly and Faithfully, so serve his said Master both by Day and Night, neither Purloyning, Stealing, Wasting, nor Embezeling his said Masters Goods, nor to his Power suffer it to be done by others, but hinder the same, nor frequent Taverns, Tipling-houses, Gameings, nor use Cursing, Swearing, nor any Lewd Living; but, in all things, behave himself as an Honest

14 **Nabal Speculations**, Or,
nest, Just, and Good Servant, which I
think is near the Words and Import of an
Indenture, and is also well near the duty
of every one that enters into, or takes
upon him a Publick Office or Employ-
ment of Trust, where Wages, &c. is al-
lowed: I say, if he does discharge his said
Duty, he may very well deserve his Com-
pensation of Wages, &c. affixed or al-
lowed to his said Office by the Admiral-
ty; and not to spend much Time and Mo-
neys to make Interest, and Fee largely
for it, to come in by private Interest; but
to study faithfully to serve, and endea-
vouring to be well skilled in the Affair,
and to wait in his Station patiently for
his Advancement by his merit unto some
higher degree, when it shall happen to
fall, by either the Death or Removal of
his superior Officer; for this is a sure rule
that the worst Officer will bid the highest
for the Betts, knowing that he dares not
come to the Touch or Proof of his Abili-
ties;

ties; and it is implied at the same time of his compact, that he may Purloine, Steal, Embezle, and do Wrong to his Masters Goods, or any other, that shall come under his reach, to benefit himself, to pay himself of whatsoever Monies, Time and Friends has cost him in the Pursuit thereof; and is so ment by his Superior, to have a larger Tither or Scope to do it, without being turned out, or reproved for it; or else he is very unjust to him, and in plain Terms, hath Cozened him of his Moneys, Treats, Obsequious Observances, and slavish Attendance; for it is a sure rule, that the Judge that buyes his Commission, will sell Justice to repay himself; which puts me in mind of what I have Read in the old Manuscripts, of the Kings House-hold Servants; That the Lord Steward, and Lord Chamberlain of the House-hold, in their respective Precincts, did declare in a Written Table of Establishments, what Office was next to supply

16 Naval Speculations, Or,

supply the Vacancy, either by Death, Defect, or Removal of the next above it. In which order, as long as it was kept and observed, it appeared to be an orderly Family, excellent, and beautiful in its Government, and served for the purpose intended, *viz.* the Service of their Master, the Glory, Beauty, and Splendor of the Court; and hath been said thereof, by Foreigners seeing it, as the Queen of Sheba said of Solomon, *Happy are these thy Servants that stand before thee, to hear thy Wisdom, and see this Order.* But what Corruption hath brought it to ever since, is not difficult to relate: So say I of the Navy; if the like Order were made and observed, and such a known method were Registered in every Office of moment, it would be a great Settlement, (as it hath been formerly) it would be an encouragement to all Officers to be Honest, Painful, and Just in their respective Stations; and endeavour to be approved and experienced Men,

Men for their Abilities ; and not to grind and extort Fees for Reward, and to raise their Profits by Intricacies, and dilatory Pretences, for to bring about their Designs, to enrich themselves betimes, lest they should be turned out, and not be able to live afterwards : But to wait patiently, and expect to rise by their Merit unto better Preferment, as their lot of Succession shall happen ; and not fear to be turned aside, and be put out of their Livelihoods, if they faithfully act in their station ; altho' some are offended at them, and by their private Picque shall inform against them, and so be dismiss'd for doing their very Duty ; and never so much as have an Hearing, or so much as know for what they are turned out, as of late years it hath been practis'd. Such Proceedings, I am sure, is beside Justice ; and that no Man but would endeavour to avoid such a Lot, by breaking the Rules and Methods which are prescribed them (when they

C

know

18 **Nabal Speculations,** Or,
know it will be their fate, if they do not
violate their Orders to please some men.)

But heretofore it always was the Method, if any one had done a Crime worthy of being discarded, they were sent for, and permitted to answer their Accusations; and had that Justice done them, which the Antient *Romans* used, as is mentioned in the *Acts of the Apostles*; and not to proceed to Judgment, until the Accusers came Face to Face; yet they were Heathens.

Now, I have farthermore to offer, That if Officers have Commissions or Warrants granted them, and have not at the same time given them ample and sufficient Instructions to act by, in their Execution of the same, (in the performing of which they shall be safe and blameless, altho any Superior be offended;) and also if Instructions be given to one Officer to Act thus, and to another Inferior to make no mention of his Obedience

dience to the former; but that their Instructions are as different, and as contrary, as Light is to Darkness.

It certainly must be, instead of procuring Unity and Concord, a casting a Stumbling-block into the Affair; and be a cause of many to fall either into Discord and Divisions, which is a vexation to them, and an hinderance to the Affair; or else under the guilt of breaking or laying aside their Instructions, and act according to the pleasure of their Superior; then say I, Rules and Methods are of no farther use; and the Service rendred only to truckle to the will and pleasure of the Superior; the evil whereof will not be small. So that the Affair must of necessity prove to be the Expence of vast Treasure; the Service done therein very uncertain, and must attend and wait upon the Humour, Profit, or Pleasure, of every individual Commander, or Superior Officer, of a Fleet, Office, or Ship; which

20 **Naval Speculations**: Or;
never was the Proceedings of the *Navy*
formerly, nor, I hope, never will be; if
it be, it would be the prostituting the
Glory of the Nation to private Interest;
and the prostrating it at the Feet of a
few, who may, in time, be able to shake
the Quiet and Felicity of the Nation at
their pleasures; and be formidable to
those that Nourished and Fed them from
their low Estate. Wherefore it hath
been ever observ'd, by all Kingdoms,
States, and Governments, to be jealous
of any Army, or Military Power, that they
have in their greatest need been con-
strained to employ; to be sure to bind
them to the strict Observance of Orders,
Rules, and Methods of the King, and his
Councils, or his Chief Ministers near
him, to whom he commits the Command
of them; he residing with him, and in
his Councils, and communicates the At-
fair to the King and Council: So like-
wise States do theirs, to the Order of
the

the Senate; and whensoever their Commanders shall disobey, or break their Orders, they are immediatly Jealous of their Security, and do not easily pass it by, as may appear in the *Roman* Histories; yet they fell under it at last: Notwithstanding their Care, and also the Care of their Emperors, for the Erecting the *Pretorian* Gaurds for their own Safety; yet they exposed themselves to the dispose of the said Guards: For how often was the Empire translated, and the Imperial Crown put upon the Head of whom they chose: As likewise the *Mam-malucks* of *Ægypt*, and the *Jannisaries* of the *Ottoman*-Empire: So that, I say, all Nations have been careful to have their Military Men religiously to Observe their Orders, in their Commands; and to have all Officers have their Instructions for their Duties, in their Respective Places, and their Dependance for Preferment from the *Lord High Admi-*

22 **Nabal Speculations:** Or, *ral*, under the King, for the Sea; and from the Lord General, under the King, by Land; who, except in very Urgent and Sharp Wars, is near unto the King, and in his Councils: Yet there is none bearing Command under the King, but are to act themselves, according to Instructions prescribed them; and also to preserve their Sub-Officers in their respective Stations, they acting according to their Instructions; for the breach of which they are accountable to the Commissioners of the *Navy*, who are to examine into it, and to inform the Lord *High-Admiral* thereof.

Wherefore, as I said before, if there be not a Harmony in the said Instructions, but are of different Meanings; so that no concordance can be interpreted from them, neither do they speak the particular Duties required of them, but is all left to the uncontrolled Will of the Superiour Commanding; then is the Affair in a loose

loose Posture, without true Method of Government; and is, consequently, in much Commotion, disorderly, unquiet, and distractedly confus'd, and at the will of the Superiour commanding, and can attain no Laudable Action; and at a Prodigious, and uncertain Expence of Treasure; and grievously burthensome to the Nation, and to the Inferior Officers, and Mariners, serving under them: I say, when ever the *Navy* is under such Predicaments in its Government, it is running in the Plain rode to Ruine, and the total Loss of *England's* Glory, and the Sovereignty of the Norrow Seas; the which *God* in his Mercy prevent.

II. *Of the Principal Officers, and Commissioners in General.*

THEY are Commissioned by the Lord High Admiral ; whose Office is to execute all Orders from the Admiralty, for fitting out of Ships, what allowance of Men, the Unrigging and laying them Up, Building and Repairing of Ships or Houses ; they direct the manner of doing it ; they represent to the *Admiralty* the Quality and Condition of Ships, Houses, Docks, &c. the Qualities and Conditions of all Officers, for Preferment ; viz. Warrant-Officers, if not some Commissioned : In fine, they represent the whole Affair of the *Navy* to the *Admiralty*, and receive Orders from them ; which they put, and cause to be put in Execution, by making By-orders grounded upon them : They
Con-

Contract, and Pay for Assign-Bills, for Payment for all Stores, Wages, and Victuals, and all the Expence of the *Navy*; and Audite all the Accompts, and avouch all the Payments to the Treasurer, by a Ledger; which Ledger the Pay-Master of the *Navy*, for the Treasurer, passes into the Exchequer every Year, which undergo the Examination and Casting again of the Auditor of the Exchequer; which Ledger contains the Treasurer's Debtor and Creditor Accompt; which Examination being over, the Treasurer hath a *Quietus* out of the Exchequer, for his Acquittment. But yet, in general, these aforesaid Commissioners are of very great Trust; for they so negotiate the Affair of the *Navy*, that not an Officer or Person in it, but what comes under their Cognizance: Their Office is partly Military, and partly Civil-Military; for they Execute, or Direct, all Councils of War, which in the Roads, or Rivers, where

26 **Naval Speculations: Or,**

where no *Admiral* is, they are Deciders of all Controversies between Man and Man, concerning Debts to be defaulted out of their Pays: They have Power to mulct any Man's Pay, for Neglects and Offences committed: They examine into all Men's Facts; the lesser to punish by Pecuniary Mulcts; and the greater to represent to the *Admiralty*; and, in the Interim, to suspend them from the Service; and, in fine, to do Justice between the King and the Subject.

To their Commissions from the *Admiralty*, is generally added Commissions of the Peace, for those Counties where its thought the King's Affairs will lead them; whereby they are enabled to Act in Civil Matters, by doing Justice to any appertaining to the King's Affairs; to decide Matters of Justice between any in the Yards, or in their Travels; commit any to Prison for Burglary, Murther, or Petty-larcony; and may sit on the Bench

Bench at Assizes, or General Quarter-Sessions: And, in fine, may do any thing that a Justice of the Peace can do, within the Limits of his Commission.

And for the Military, he is the very Image and Deputy of the *Lord High Admiral*; to put in Execution the Power which the *Admiralty* delegates unto him. And if he be President of a Council of War, he sits by virtue of a Commission from the *Lord High Admiral*, and as his Proxy.

In fine, It is a Place of very great Trust and Business, and requires Men of Knowledge, Wisdom, Justice, and Experience of the *Naval* Proceedings; and of Courage also, and Conduct; for they are many times called to Sea to wear Flags, such as have been made out of the Commanders at Sea, Knowledge, and Experience of the *Navy*, to soon decide any Controversie arising between Officers, concerning their respective Duties; else the
Officers

28 **Naval Speculations**: Or,
Officers will be apt to put Novelties, and
to raise Scruples, if they know the Com-
missioner is not able to decide them;
whose Umpirage ought to be absolute in
any of the Yards; also when he is a-
lone. But when there is a Board, it may
be appealed to the Board; but if the
matter be not very great and grievous, it
were better to abide by his Umpirage:
For the Others will not care to meddle
within his Precinct, concerning any one
in the Yard or Ordinary, except they
do belong to any Ship in Extraordinary:
And though there is a Captain, who will
assume the Power; yet a Commissioner
may grant Relief to a Wronged Person,
against the will of his Captain, if the
Ship be within the Harbour. But, of
late Years, the Commissioners of the
Navy have been eclipsed, and lessened by
the Captains, and the Rules of the *Navy*,
and the Antient Customs, much broken:
For the Authority and Business of some
have

have been stretched to that length, that they themselves know not the end ; but of that I shall speak, when I come to their particular Post.

As for a Commissioner of the *Navy*, I have known him to bear very great Authority in the Harbour, and at Pay ; and have done great Justice to particular Men, who have been wronged by their Commanders unjust and merciless Spleen ; so that the grieved Officer and Mariner have rejoyced, when they have come where a Commissioner was ; who would take the Captain to Task, for his Inhumane or Unjust Dealings, and reprimand him severely ; and, if worthy, would transfer the Matter to the *Admiralty* ; where the Commissioners Representation should be heard, to the Others disadvantage. And if a Ship came into the Harbour, and the King's Affairs stood in need of hands, he would not scruple to order one Ship's Company to work
on

30 **Naval Speculations:** Or,
on another, to clear her for the Dock,
Rigg, Re-fit, and what not; by which
the Service might be furthered.

But, as I said before, the Case is much
altered, and the Hinges of that Affair
quite Lame; they will not move any
way, except you would have them go
Backwards: But I will not meddle with
Particulars, lest I should come within the
Account of an *Informer*, the which is
reckon'd a thing of great Odium in the
Navy-Affairs: But I greatly admire, that
the Officers of the Upper-Rank should
brand any one, that lets them know of
any fowl Fact, with the Odium of an
Informer, and seemingly, nay, openly,
treats him unkindly: It has seem'd strange
unto me, (and looked like the *unjust*
Steward, who not only Wronged his
Master himself, but shewed others to do
it; or looks like a Great Man's Steward,
who discourages, or is angry with any
one that comes to him, and tells him,
That

That such an one hath coufened his Master, or stollen his Goods, of which he is the Head Steward;) what might be the Reason, that generally, in the *Navy*-Office, and through the Practice of the *Navy*, one that Informs of Coufenance, or Theft in the *Navy*, is filled with an Odium, and generally hated and discountenanced; as also, a Ticket-Buyer, or Ticket-Monger, as they in hatred term him; and is looked upon, as some ill Office done by him. But, in my mind, these Two Persons are the King's Friends; the former, to deter Thieves, and Unjust Men from their Evil Practices; and the latter I shall speak to, when I shall arrive at the Ticket-Office. But these Treatments are very strange to me, and seem, as if there were a general Agreement against them, as Evil Men, and not fit to negotiate in the *Navy*.

But I shall say no more at Present, but hide my Face with Shame; and follow

32 **Naval Speculations:** Or,
low my Discourse of the Commissioners,
who are of that weight in this Affair,
that if they be right, and good, and
well-fitted to the Business, they are the
Vital Heat of the Affair; and should, as
the Action do require, be multiplied, in a
great War, with some Young, Sharp,
Wise, and Just Gentlemen; who have
Travelled, and are of Years for Gravi-
ty enough for the Affair, and of Experi-
ence for Business, to Post away to the
Ports, where the Ships are newly arri-
ved, and step on Board, and Examine
what occasions the Miscarriages, either
by Weather or War: And there shall he
see to the Life, Neglects and Misdemea-
nors, in an high degree, by Comman-
ders, and Officer's indiscreet Manage-
ment: And, for want of which Visit,
there is nothing known to the *Admiralty*,
but a Letter from the Captain, whose
Word passes at all Times, both for Himself,
and all the Ship's Company. So the Ships
are

are turned in, and others are turned out, to please him, without any Enquiry, how the other became damnified. The Custom heretofore was, That before one Ship was ordered in, the Commissioner of the Place, or one Extraordinary, as before-said, went on Board, and called all the Officers to Account, and surveyed the Defects, and examined the Cause of the Defects; and, if need were, to take their Oaths to it, if it were of Moment; and so gave the *Admiralty* an Account of the whole Business, with every Circumstance material. And so the *Admiralty* knew all material Matters, and, by that means, did save the like Mischances for the future; which may amount to many Thousands of Pounds quickly, and Mens Lives, if it were so looked after; and would create a greater Care.

I forbear Particulars, for my former Reasons; but Miscarriages come very
D fast,

34 **Naval Speculations** : Or,
fast, and no body blamed. I say, a Com-
missioner of the *Navy* is of Great Use,
if he sets to it with good Application,
and be not baulked easily, nor blinded
by Commanders ; and if he do not love
his Ease or Grandeur too well, designing
to set himself down, and rest himself on
a Soft Chair, in a Warm House, with a
good Sallary added to it ; and not care
to contend with the Active Captain. Let
him do his Pleasure, saith such an one,
why should I trouble my self with a Cap-
tain, full of Mercury and Sulphur?
What need I embroil my self with him ?
I am in a good Station, and may be qui-
et, if I will let things slide, and not let
my Interest be called aloft at every Turn,
to support me ; and if my Interest hap-
pen to fail, I may, by a Misconstruction,
or a wrong Representment, be called a-
way to give Room for another, who has
gotten a Commission for the same Place,
before I knew on't. So that, I say, if
such

such Proceedings be, that Men are laid aside by Representments barely, without ever being heard, it will cause all Men to sooth, cogg, flatter, and let Business slide, and nothing will run in its right course; that a Man shall not know, in a little while, what were the Rules and Lines of Government of the *Navy*, there being so little sign left of them already. For, if it comes to pass, that the Customs and Practices of the Methods of the *Navy*, be broken by Novel and Unexperienced Officers, fraughted with sufficient ill Temper, no ways qualified, but boasting of their great Interests that brought them in, and will Maintain them there, in despite of all Complaints; leaving over Methods at pleasure, refusing Justice, and squeezing Inferiors that do not bend or truckle the right way: I say, Such things as these will rend the Concern, and pester it, and be as bad as a *Quartane-Ague*, and spoil its

36 **Naval Speculations**: Or,
Form and Beauty; and make the Nation
groan under so ill amanged Concern,
by means of its Weight and Burthen, as
hereafter will more plainly appear.

Having said enough, I hope, of that
kind Here, I will now proceed to the
Navy-board; where I find a *Treasurer*, a
Comptroller, a *Surveyor*, and a *Clerk of the*
Acts, all Principal Officers; to which are
added, a *Commissioner for Victualling Ac-*
compts, and a *Commissioner for Assign-*
ment of Cash, and divers other Com-
missioners.

And, *First*, of the *Treasury*, and there-
in the *Treasurer*; who heretofore was a
Courtier, or Officer at Court, and was
of the Privy-Council; and had Poundage
for all his Payments, at Three Pence *per*
Pound: But it being too large, by the
encrease of the *Navy*, it was since brought
to a Sallary.

He always assisted at the *Navy-Board*:
But, I think, the Placing the *Treasury*
so

so far off the *Navy-Board*, is not so well for Dispatch of the Affair; for there might be an House built on the Waste-Ground on *Tower-Hill*, with a Dwelling for the *Treasurer*, and fit Offices for that Affair; which would be near, and adjoyning to the *Navy-Office*; wherein the *Ticket-Office* might also be contained, and be a means of more quick Dispatches with more Security; the *Tower* being near, and Help soon called, to stop such Tumults and Mutinies, as I have seen about that Office; and the Commissioners and Clerks may soon be there, to execute their Pays with ease, without loss of Time; and Errors and Mistakes may soon be righted; which the distance of it now doth greatly hinder: And also the *Treasurer* need not be charged with the Cash, no more than the *Treasurer* of the King's Household is; but as the Cofferer is *There*, so the Cashier *Here*: The Pay-Masters also, being responsible Men,

38 **Nabal Speculations**: Or,
and giving Security for their Employ-
ments, as they do the *Treasurer* now,
would be sufficient.

Now the Cashier is an Officer that
the *Treasurer* puts in: He receives the
Cash from the Exchequer, by Assign-
ment upon some Branches of the Reve-
nue; and sometimes receives it in *Specie*,
from the Exchequer: But the Pay-Ma-
ster of the Bills and Tickets, is an En-
croachment that the Cashier has made
upon the Pay-Master of the *Navy*, charg-
ing him with the Moneys which he Pays
in Bills and Tickets, and gives the Pay-
Master only Bills and Papers for so much;
which the Pay-Master must take care to
bring to Accompt in his Ledger before
spoken of.

The Pay-Master of the *Navy*, is a Re-
sponsible Officer, and put in by the *Trea-
surer*, giving him good Security, and
Discharges the greatest part of the Affair:
They, and all the Sallaries of the said
Office,

Office, were at the *Treasurer's* own Charge formerly, except one Clerk for the making up of Books. But how it is now, I cannot tell. And thus much of the *Treasurer*.

Secondly, The Comptroller is also a Principal Officer, who comptrolls all Payments of the *Navy*: His Office is to Inspect all Summs paid; and, by his Clerks, to cast up all Bills; the Ticket-Office also being under his Inspection. His Business being very large, is done by his chief Clerk, and Sub-clerks, and a chief Clerk of the Ticket Office, with Subs. Now, the Clerk-Comptroller should (with the Clerk of the Ticket-Office) be Warranted by the Admiralty. and give Security for the Actions of each Office; and the Sub-clerk only be put in by the Comptroller.

Thirdly, The *Surveyor* is also a Principal Officer: His Office is to survey all the Ships to be Built, or Repaired; as

40 **Naval Speculations:** Or,
also, all Houses, Docks, and Stores, re-
maining of Store-keepers every Year; as
also, the Remains of all Boat-Swains,
and Carpenters, coming from Sea; and
to pass their Accompts, which he exe-
cutes by his Assistant, or Out-riding
Surveyor; but chiefly by the Clerk of
the Survey, resident in every Yard, and
presented to the Office by the Surveyor,
but Warranted by the *Admiralty*.

I mention an Out-riding Surveyor;
but there was never any one yet, nor
Assistant to the Comptroller, nor Clerk
of the Acts Assistant, until of late. But
that Assistant, which I call an Out-ri-
ding Surveyor, should be often at every
Yard, and where any Ships do put in; I
mean, Fleets; to survey any Damages,
which any Ships do receive by Storm of
Weather, or Accident of War; who
should return the same to the Surveyor;
and he communicate it to the Board, and
they to the Admiralty, as I before-men-
tioned.

tioned. Also, this Riding Surveyor should often be at all Timber-Falls, or where any Quantity of Timber is bought, and Marked for the King's Use; and not to leave it wholly to Purveyors, of whom I shall speak in the Yards: And moreover, he should be the Measurer and Taker-up of all Ships, which are Taken into the King's Service, either for War, or Stores; and not to leave it to Purveyors, as is usual: Also, he should be often Inspecting, and Surveying of the Ships in Harbor, how they are kept from Drops, their Masts, Yards, and Rigging, &c. of the Ships, whether they lie not, by bad Managing, in a Damaging Condition; and give Orders for their Preservation; and converting, and contriving it most for the Benefit of the Service; Alterations on Ships, Hulks, Lighters, and Houses made; Wells, Pumps, Docks, Conveyances of Water by Pipes; Contrivances of Conveniences for

42 **Nabal Speculations** : Or,
for Stores ; and not only of the Store-
Houses of the Yards, but also of all the
Victualling Offices, Cooperidge Dwell-
ings, &c. And in fine, all that apper-
tains to the *Navy*; and not leave it
wholly to Commissioners, Builders,
Mast-makers, House-Carpenters, and
Carpenters of Ships, and others usually
resident, and acting there. I mean,
when any considerable Buildings, or Al-
terations and Repairings are needful to
be made : This being all directly under
the Inspection and Care of the Office of
the Surveyor of the *Navy*, and his Assi-
stant, or Riding-Surveyor ; and so to
transfer the Account thereof, to the Na-
vy-Board ; that they may be able to
give Account to the *Admiralty*, whenso-
ever it shall be required ; causing it to be
entred into the Clerk-Surveyor's Office,
at the Yards, and then to the chief Clerk-
Surveyor's Office, whensoever any Or-
ders are made thereupon.

And

And now it is needful, I should mention one great Conveniency wanting in *Portsmouth* Yard, if not in others ; and that is, a large Well and Pump, and Pipes to convey the Water to some convenient Place, for the watering of Ships at the Water-side ; that their Boats might at all times of Tide, come and fill fresh Water, their Casks lying in the Boats ; that they be not forced to hoist them out and in, and roll them in the Dirt, with great labour, loss of time, destruction of Cask, and slaving out of the Men ; when a tenth part of the labour and time, and damages, would do it, if a little Charge, laid out for that Convenience, were bestowed : I admire at the neglect. I say, The Surveyor's Office would be of much greater Service to the King in the *Navy*, if it be attended with such good Application, as is herein hinted.

Fourthly, The Clerk of the *Acts*, is also a prin-

44 **Nabal Speculations**: Or,
a principal Officer, signing of late; but,
I conceive, that Officer was never intended formerly to act through the whole Series of that Affair, done at the Board; but as a Clerk and Accomptant, to assist the Board in their Contracts, Orders, Letters, Warrants, &c. Digesting and Clerking of Matters done at the Board; finding of Precedents, preparing and laying up of all Precedents and Papers ready for view, viz. all the Actions of the Board, except such Papers as fall under the *Treasurer*, *Comptroller*, *Surveyor*, *Commissioner for Victualling*, and *Commissioner for Assignment of Casks*, their respective Offices.

Now this Officer should Sign only under, as Secretary, to avouch he Action past by the Board, under his Registry and Notification: For it cannot be thought that he should have Skill and Knowledg in all the Affairs of *Treasurer*, *Comptroller*, *Surveyor*, *Commissioner for Victualing*,
Accompts

Accompts, and *Commissioner* for *Assignment* of *Cash*, their distinct and intricate Proceedings, well seasoned with Justice; and to speak thereunto, and to cause the dispatch thereof equally, if not more than them. I say, It is inconsistent with Reason, to think this *Officer* ever was, or can be, capable to attain to the Insight, Skill, and Knowledge of those Affairs, which is required, and herein mentioned, to appertain to their respective Offices; and wherein is the Exercise of great Justice also: The doing whereof would perplex, molest, and make the Affairs full of Intricacies, and troublesome Methods; and be a means to mislead them in their Places, and cause delays in their Proceedings, or precipitate them in their Debates, when dispatches are required, so as I have elsewhere said: Too much Intricacies by Method multiplied, clogs, perturbs, molests, and hinders the Affairs in their dispatches; which is the Vital Spirit

46 **Naval Speculations:** Or,
Spirit of all *Naval* or Military Pro-
ceedings.

Fifthly, The Commissioner for *Victualling Accounts*, is to pass the Accounts of the Commissioners for *Victualling* the *Navy* under his Inspection; as also, the Purfers of Ships; and by his Chief Clerk, who should be warranted thereunto by the *Admiralty*, and giving Security for the Papers, Bills, and all Matters and Transactions in that Office depending; and to digest them into their proper Methods; and offer them to Inspection and View for Approbation; first, unto the Commissioner; and, by his Order and Direction, be presented to the Board, for Allowances they shall agree to; and by their Orders, to prepare Bills for their Signing, and Passing the *Accounts*.

The Sub-Clerk, or Clerk of that Office, should be put-in by the proper Commissioner: But the head Clerks of
every

every Office, if they should be put in by the respective Commissioners, as they have been accustomed, as when the *Navy-Affairs* were of less quantity, and shorter Proceedings; even *Then* it was not void of *Interest*, Confusions, dilatory, promiscuous, and uncertain Proceedings; much more *Now*, when the *Navy* is swollen to so vast a Bulk, and a prospect of yet greater, that it would require to each of the said Offices a Head Clerk, well skilled, and every-way trained up in that Experience and Affair of known Fidelity, Justice, and Honesty; diligent and Industrious in his Attendance; I say, in the *Navy* now: As for instance; at the Premier Institution of the *Court of Chancery*, Six Clerks were enough to Clerk that Affair, under which Demonstration it still Runs: But after the encrease of the Practices, how many are there required, and how great and important a Six Clerks Office is, doth appear: So also
here

48 **Nabal Speculations:** Or,
here is Room for Eight Principal Clerks,
that none may be delay'd, that attend
their negotiations in the said Office, by
Pretences and Demurs made by Under-
Clerks, or Apprentices, for Lucre: And
therefore these Clerks ought to be perma-
nent, settled, and steady in their Em-
ployments, with a prospect of Advance-
ment; and that by a Table of Advancement
or Establishment, for each Clerk's Pre-
ferment, as formerly mentioned; and to
have their Warrants from the Admiralty;
and not to have their whole Hopes and
Dependance hang upon the mutable
Good-will of the Commissioner of that
Office: And also, the Under-Clerks to
be under the like circumstance of an Esta-
blishment, for their Advancement by the
Commissioners of the Navy Board: So
will there be Able, Skilful, Modest, and
Industrious Head-Clerks, giving Security
for their Offices, viz. the Cashier, and
Pay-Master of the Navy, Clerks of the
Ticket-

Ticket-Office, Clerk-Comptroller, Clerk-Surveyor, Clerk of the *Board*, Clerk of *Victualing-Accompts*, and Clerk of *Assignment of Cash*: And the Under-Clerks would be Industrious and diligent, and all aspire to be expert, and able instruments, and be moderate in their Fees; and quick in their Dispatches, and with patience wait for their Advancement; which is an Object they see settled daily before their Faces; which should be as certainly their Reward, if they live, and be so approved of; even as unalterable, as the Laws of the *Medes* and *Persians* were.

The Clerk of the *Petitions* and *Requests* is grown, of late, out of the Clerk of the *Acts-Office*, and is a particular; and, I think, appointed thereto by him, having a small Apartment; where all Persons Petitioning for some small Dispatches; may have easie and free Access to put in their Requests, and receive their

E

Answers,

50 **Naval Speculations :** Or,
Answers, without delays; if it be well
performed, and not delaid for Lucre; the
due Execution of which should be well
regarded; for many Persons attending
for small dispatches, *viz.* to be Tran-
sportred, and expedited on Board their
Ships, Entred into the Yards or Ships,
and hundreds more of like sort, are in
need of like dispatches, and wait there,
being ignorant of their Proceedings.

The Care and Dispatch of that Office,
I reckon, belongs to the Clerk of the
Acts, or Clerk of the *Board*.

The Clerk of the *Ticket-Office* is also
of great Trust: He is to Examine all
Tickets, cast up the Wages, Examine all
Purfers Victualling-Books, keep all Ma-
sters-Books from time to time, sent by all
Checques, Muster-Masters, Captains,
and Purfers: If he be a Man given to
Bribery or Lucre, he may cast a great
Scandal upon this Affair, and abuse the
King's Service; because the Men's Tickets
are

are all to pass through his Hands; and he Acting alone, and apart, he may have opportunities for Protraction: But his Office is most immediatly under the Inspection of the Comptroller, but not of the Clerk-Comptroller: He ought to be a Man modest and moderate in his Fees, of great Patience, and Compassionate of poor ignorant Men and Women; and of a nature easie to be talked to, by the Vulgar and Ignorant People; and ready to put them in the Right-way, bearing with their weak Expressions, and idle Questions about their Business; and not be of an elevated Mind, short and sharp Speech, expecting to have Sentences and Rhetorick spoken to him: For the People Soliciting that Affair, and also generally of the *Navy-Office*, are not much Lettered.

And now I am in the Way, I will give a Lecture for the Clerks, in general, of the *Navy*; who, perhaps, may

52 **Naval Speculations:** Or,
come in time to read it, or to hear it from
the Mouths of their Superiors, who have
the Over-sight and Correction of them
more amplified, and in a better Accent,
and more suitable to their Capacity; and
most likely to take Effect upon them;
which is briefly thus: *viz.* to consider,
that the Affair is of such great conse-
quence, that the very Welfare of the
Politick Body of this Nation does hang
upon it; and that generally, the People
that act in the Affair, are meer strangers,
pulled and hauled into the Service by
the Necessity of the Nation, to require
Help of all People of the Nation, to be con-
tributing to withstand our Foreign Ene-
mies; to preserve the Honour and Trade
thereof, and these People that are drawn
into it, either by Force, Persuasion, or
by Commutation, are generally not
much skilled in Letters, and commonly
Women-Solicitrixes, Wives, Widows,
or Friends; and therefore, very testy,
and very impatient of delays; well
stockt

stockt with Curses, and hard Wishes; yet more than all, are grinded by their Creditors, and pinched to the heart by Poverty, and insupportable Necessities, the which is partly brought on them by their imprudent management of themselves and Family, when they have it: But, chiefly, the exigencies which the Affair puts them into, *viz.* Travel, Wounds, Sicknes by Mischances, Wetness, Cold, bad Diet, Lodging, &c. yet more by the Methods and Proceedings of the *Naval-Offices*, whose compassions goe but a little way, to spare Money, or Advice, nay Liberty under their Commands, to provide necessary Relief at the best hand for themselves: For, first, when they come on Board, they have no Cloths; and to have them, the Methods are not, untill they have served Two Months: But, perhaps, e're that he stinks, or crawls with Lice, or Sick, if not all together: And then when

54. **Nabal Speculations**, Or,
he has it, it is at a dear Rate, and perhaps not that which he wants; and none dares to Credit him, as I shall shew hereafter, on the Slop-seller's Part. But this being too long a Lesson for my Clerk to hear, I will leave this Subject unto another Place; thinking I have said enough, to move him to compassion towards the Sea-men, their Widows, and Fatherless Children; and to give them dispatches the easiest, quickest, and cheapest Way, in kind and Familiar Expressions, except they be rude and impudent towards the Clerk.

And here I will acquaint the *Clerks*, That when we did the greatest Feats of Arms at Sea, *viz.* with the *Dutch* their First War; with the *Spaniard*, in the *Mediterranean*, *St. de Croix*, and *West-Indies*, &c. and all the Wars we had in the Time of King *Charles's* Exile; the *Navy-Office* was so ordered, that a Man might have dispatched any Affair almost,
at

at one Board ; and with the Ticket-Office and Treasure, in a Tides-Time ; and with the greatest ease imaginable, and cheapness too : For none were suffered to take any Fees publickly, but what was forced on them, and in private, with a modest Acceptance : But their dispatches were with all imaginable quickness, and every one endeavoured to exceed each other ; and strove who should serve the Publick best, and cheapest : For their publick Business were carried on with all imaginable Application, and it was a Crime for any one to absent himself from his Post, and not easily past over without very good Reasons given ; nor any kind of delays, by keeping any Bills, or Tickets, or Papers, in their hands, without dispatch, under pretence of not being at leisure : And for their quick Equipping of Fleets, and putting them into Action, there is sufficient Testimony and Proof remaining. Indeed, it did behove them to bestir themselves,

56 **Naval Speculations:** Or,
when they had the whole World upon
their backs almost, at once, to deal with;
and a discontent in their Bowels, at the
same time; yet you see, with what Vigor
and Resolution, Pains and Industry they
waded through it, to the Terror and A-
mazement of their Enemies; the Situation
of this Kingdom, and Benefit of its Ports;
but the paucity of their Ships and Men,
and smallness of their Provision of Artil-
lery and Munition, was no small Obstacle.

Wherefore I conclude, that since the
said Obstacles are removed far from us, and
the Benefits, by *God's* Goodness, continued
unto us, (unto which might be added
an Heroick Monarch, with good consti-
tuted Laws,) why we might not, by the
Divine Assistance, do as great matters
by our *Navy*, as ever; which might pro-
duce us both Splendor, Peace, and
Riches, I know not.

And therefore I conclude this Exhor-
tation to the *Clerks*, that they be expert,
pain-

painful, and industrious, moderate in their Fees; but of quick dispatches, which is the Life thereof; and I doubt not, but that their Superiours will settle them a good Compensation, suitable to their Merit; and an Establishment for their Advancement, as a Reward for their patient Expectation.

Sixthly, the Commissioner for *Assignment of Cash*, is of a late Comencement, but a very good Method: His Office is to inspect the keeping of a Ledger, by his Head Clerk of all the *Cash*, assigned to be paid by the Treasurer or Pay-master, in the nature of Debtor and Creditor, the Italian Accompt; by which Book the Board may see the State of the Treasury, what hath been Received, and to what Uses it hath been paid, and what *Cash* remains to be Assigned: Also, he prepares Lists of what Bills or Tickets, Ships, Books, or Yards, are yet unpaid, and are presented to the Board, as often

as

58. **Naval Speculations:** Or, as necessity requires; that they may agree in the Order or Preference, what is most necessary or needful to be next assigned for Payment, out of what part and proportion of the remaining Cash; and of the next Receipts, as appropriated for this Use, and what for that; and accordingly they are Listed, and Assigned, and Paid in their courses, without any deviations, or preferences, as the said List runneth. If it be Rightly Executed, the method is laudable, if there be no delays nor preferences in the drawing the said Lists, but impartially assigned.

The Just and Impartial proceedings of this Office, is committed to the care of a Commissioner; who directs and orders the Head-Clerk therein, and he the Subs, for his Assistance: This is a Branch of the Comptroller's Office; but his Comptrolment, being of too large Business, is eased by this Commissioner, as is also, by the Commissioner for Victualing-Accompts:
The

The Other Commissioners also do contribute their Help, to see the due Execution of Payes of Ships, Yards, &c. They go to the Ports where Fleets ride, and give necessary Orders: But formerly, they went on Board the Fleet, and into Battles, and were of Council to the Flags: For, it has not been thought safe, nor expedient, for a general Flag to go without Coadjutors, or Assistants in Councils. I say, they have also noted the Transactions, and took notice of the diligent, careful, and industrious Officers; and who did a brave Action, he gave the *Admiralty* an Account, for Preferment and Reward; and the Careless, Slothful, Debauched, and Ill-behaved, he also noted to the *Admiralty*, for their Dismission: But for some small rewards, and other reprehensions, he had power to do himself, and never failed to do it.

So likewise, in the Ports, Harbors, and Yards, where any quantities of Ships were,

60 **Naval Speculations:** Or, were, they visited, and spurred, enlivened, quickned, and dispatched the Affairs, making their Observations as aforesaid: Yet not to Eclipse the *Admiral's* Authority, or the Commissioner's of the Place; but all went on in a mutual Assistance to the Affair, in Unity and Concord; and whatsoever the One did, was approved of by the Other. But a Captain never attempted to Disobey, Contradict, or Dispute the Commissioner's definite Orders, within the Ports or Rivers; nor his Advice or Directions in points of Government abroad, if it were not opposite to the General's or Admiral's Instructions: But how it is now, and what Figure a Commissioner bears, is plain and obvious in proceedings of late, which brings me into

Thirdly,

Thirdly, *The Yards:*

1. *The Commissioner.*
2. *The Clerk of the Checque.*
3. *The Master-Builder.*
4. *The Store-Keeper.*
5. *The Master-Attendance.*
6. *The Clerk of the Survey.*
7. *The Warrant-Office in Ordinary.*
8. *The Purveyors.*

First, The Commissioners formerly, if a Captain brought in his Ship, and was ordered to turn over this Company into another; the Commissioner seeing the emergency of the Occasion, and that it was for the Advancement of the Service; and that his Hands were enough to clear
the

62 **Naval Extrications:** Or,
the former Ship, and fit her for the
Dock, against the approaching Spring,
or to clean her on the ways; and, at the
same time, also to Ballast, Rigg, and
Store the other, that so the Service might
not be impeded or disappointed, the
hands at the Dock prepared, and the
Dock to receive her: I say, that they
be not forced to be employed another
way, and the Dock lie void, and a Ship
full of Stores and Tackle lie by, for
want of hands to clear her: The Com-
missioner would immediately, either by
word of Mouth, or Order in Writing,
order, that so many of such a Ship's
hands do This, and so many That, which
was accordingly done: But of late, other
Proceedings have been, and clean con-
trary: Nay, I doubt, to further the
Service, the Commissioner hath been con-
strained to advance the Money imprested
for the Yard, to pay the Men for do-
ing it: And also, the Captain to re-
fuse

use to let some of his Men to Hoyst out the Provisions, which he left in the Former, to put into the New-fitted Ship, without Moneys to Pay his Men for it; If the Commissioner have protested he had no Money, the thing so lies undone, and the Provision lies in the Ship, until his good-will comes, or that he could not Victual the other without it; and, at last, sendeth some hands for some of it; and the rest, with the Ballast, Guns, and Stores, lies in her till she have slipt one Spring; and, with very great difficulty, may be gotten into the Dock the last Tide of the Second Spring, the Dock lying empty all that while, and the hands prepared for her, for a shift, turned to some other work. O Prodigious Proceedings! by one handful may be known the whole Sack.

How far a Commissioner's Authority runs in respect to a Captain now, I do not pretend to know; but formerly I have
known

64 Naval Speculations : Or,

known it extended even to the ordering all his Ship's-Company in Harbor, as he thought good, for the Advancement of the Service: Nay, if the Captain (in Spleen) would under-rate any Officer, Seaman, or Servant, to prejudice him, the Commissioner would do him right; and if the Captain should abuse any Officer, or use any unreasonable Command towards any Officer, or any of his Company, upon his first knowledge thereof, he would reprehend the Captain; and if that were not enough, he would acquaint the *Admiralty* therewith, and become an Advocate to procure Justice for the wronged Party. I am sure he is sworn to do Justice, as a Justice of Peace is, and to act so between the King and Subject, in all Matters under his Cognizance; and the like between Subject and Subject, or else I am mistaken. But if the Captain's Commission be now too high for his reach, I know not, but will refer it to
to

to those, who gave them both. But this I know, that the Service is lame, and halts shrewdly thereby.

The Commissioners of the *Yards* have been of great use and service to the Affair; but how they are now, I have so lately given you a handful out of a full sack, that there is no farther need to declare.

Secondly, I come now to the *Clerk of the Cheque*, who is an Officer of great Trust, and musters and cheques all Men, both in the *Yard*, *Harbour*, and adjacent *Roads*, where he can come conveniently, as his Instructions import: He casts up all Mens Wages for their Services; makes and delivers Books for their Quarterly Payment, and cheques all absent time: He makes out Bills for all manner of Stores: He gives Warrants to the Victuallers, to issue Victuals to all Ships Companies, both ordinary and extraordinary, called *Petty Warrants*; and he is the Cashier to pay all Contingences of the Yard, *viz.* Petty
F Emptions,

66 **Naval Speculations** : Or,

Emptions, and all other Emptions and contingent Charges; and the Commissioners Bills, with the Parties Receipts, are his Vouchers, to clear the Imprest Bills granted him, which are great Sums. His Office consists of many intricate and difficult parts, and requires an expert Clerk; one that knows the Rules and Methods of the *Navy*; a Man of good Judgment in Business, sharp sighted, and crafty, to prevent the Shifts, Shams, and Cosenages, that else will be put upon him; of Skill to discern the Goodness and right Qualities of the Stores served in; to be vigilant, and watchful, that the Men be not out of the Yard, when they should be at Work; or purloining and embezzling the King's Goods; nor be not in their Beds, or at Ale-houses, whilst they should be attending the Work of their Nights and Tides, and yet be paid for it: and, in fine, to be a vigilant, painful, honest, and withal, a very just Man; or else he
may

may do many Men much wrong, and discourage many good Men.

This Officer is of that general Use, that he had need be endowed with as many good Parts, as can be found to be gathered into one Man; I mean, Endowments of the Soul; as, Faith, Justice, Charity, and all Spiritual Graces: and of the Mind; as Wisdom, Patience, Affability, and all the intellectual Graces: and of the Body; as, Temperance, Chastity, Labour, and Industry, Vigilance, and Carefulness; and a true Observer of the Methods and Rules of the *Navy* and *Yards*; and no Breaker of those Rules, that are prescribed him in his Instructions, which are, or should be, as a Table of Commandments to him; And, in fine, if he be not well skilled and qualified, as he is in a station of much Service, so may he do much Diservice. As for instance, If he be a Man of no Skill or Knowledg in *Maritime* Affairs, (*viz.* a

68 **Naval Speculations:** Or,
meer Novice to all that Affair,) no good
Clerk nor Accomptant, and in the general
of negotiating, and doing of Business, a
Novice; that is Incapability enough to
make him useless, and rather, nay, is ex-
tream hurtful to the Affair. For, if the
King must put in Novices, and Pupils,
into places of Business and Trust, and to
endure the Damages that ensue by it,
and wait for their improvement, and fit-
ness for it; then Children were fitter for
it, they may come to maturity: But if
to the other Unqualifications, he be
fraughted with ill Temper, Peevishness,
creeping Hypocrisie, Passionate, Trouble-
some, Malitious, and Revengeful, full of
Tricks, Intrigues, and Designs, Self-con-
ceitedness, angry with one that does not
flatter him, and that hath not the same
opinion of him, that he hath of himself;
plotting and designing to enrich himself
by new methods of his Office, breaking
his Instructions like Cobwebs, with
whom

whom Lies, and Denials of Truth are as frequent, as Kisses at a Wedding; and, in fine, makes every one swear to negotiate with him, to save himself harmless; except he learn to procure, and have ready in his Pocket, the Key to unlock his Temper, to have a dispatch suitable to his Time and Occasion; I say, such a Man is put in the fair Rode to do exceeding great damages to the Affair: But to particularize the Evils ensuing, were too tedious to number; and therefore I will leave him in the good Conceit he hath, that he that preferred him, will not fail to support him: Let business either truckle or slide, his Ends and Designs are sure to effect. I must needs say then, that the weight of the burthen is too heavy for the Nation to bear; and will make it groan, if many such are shuffled into business of moment, to serve private Ends.

Thirdly, The Master-Builder, who has the Over-sight, and all the Direction and

70 **Naval Speculations:** Or,
Contrivance of the Building of all Ships,
Boats, Vessels, Docks, &c. under the
Inspection of the Surveyor, and Helps:
He hath a sufficient Architecture, called his
Assistant, Foremen, Master *Caulker*, Master
Joyner, Master *Boat-Builder*, Master *Mast-*
Maker; and all, in their distinct Stations,
execute his Orders, and are material In-
struments under him, to carry on the
Machines, which he receives Orders for
from Above. Yet he is not so absolute, but
the Commissioner upon the place is his
superiour Officer, and may supersede, if
he sees necessary; and is an Over-seeer
and Controller of him, and all other
Officers in the Yard: Obedience he may
command; but let him take care, it be
for the Promotion and Advantage of the
Service, and all is right.

This Master-Builder, I say, is the head
of all the Ship-wrights, Mast-Makers,
Joyners, Boat-Builders, Carvers, Pain-
ters, &c. and is a most material Officer
of

of Trust ; He and his Assistant, Signing for all Materials to the Store-keeper, for the issuing them ; who appropriates and appoints what Services they are issued for, by Notes, or Bills of Issues, by his Clerk allowed him, with an Office for that purpose. Yet I take notice of an Error in it ; *viz.* that although he does give a Bill for the said Issues, and therein specify for what Ship, &c. it is to be expended upon ; and the Accounts for that Work are so placed on the said Ship, or Work, with the Wages thereon, in the Accompts sent to the Surveyors Office : Yet it is not practised to take the Parties hands to the Receipt of the said Materials issued, who receives them, *viz.* the Carpenters of the Ships, Fore-men, or Overseers of the said Work ; so that they know not what Orders of Appropriation are issued for that use ; and thereby is left a Latitude, to direct the said Materials to any other use, and may prove a great abuse to

72 **Naval Speculations** : Or,
that Ship or Work; and may make it swell
in the Surveyor's-Office, where the Board
has only the view for their Satisfaction, to
give the *Admiralty* account thereof : And
I may say, be a difestimation on the Con-
tractors for the former Building, or Re-
pairing the said Ship or Work, and prove
to be an untrue Representation of the
Affairs to the *Board* and *Admiralty* ; and
is an open Door for many Evils to enter
at, which otherwise might be shut : The
Evils are too many for me to mention, but
may easily be conjectured.

And here I cannot let slip one great
Evil in the *Navy*, viz. That a Ship
which has been built out of the King's
Yards, when she comes into the said Yards
to be repaired, she shall be cobbled up, and
disregarded, and disparaged at a strange
rate by every Builder, Assistant, Fore-
man, nay, every ordinary Shipwright,
in favour and imitation of what their
Master-Builder saith of her; even he, I
say,

say, hath also a Stone to cast at her ; and all this happens to her, because he that built her is not in request in the King's Service at that time : But if he were, then may he write to that Dock and Yard to be kind to her ; and by that is understood the meaning, *viz.* to give her due Repairs, and to spare no Costs to fit her forth. But if she hath no Friends, as I said, or Father, (as they call it,) she may be had into the Dock, and bungled up at a slighting rate, and turned out again, without having her full Repairs and Adornings, and put on Float to be done there ; the which often lies undone, and she is left open for the Weather to destroy her : Her Scuppers also may be left unset, whereby the Water runs down her timbers years together ; the Bolts undrove ; not Coats for the Masts, nor Tarpallings to keep her dry ; also not good Caulking, and abundance of Work undone ; the which the Builder says he can do in
an

74 **Nabal Speculations:** Or,
an instant ; but the Ship being not wanted to be immediately fitted out, she is thus laid by ; and the Builder certifies to the Board that she is ready for the Sea, when she wants two or three Hundred Pounds worth of Work to be done to her ; and when she is ordered to the Seas the Work is to do: And so do they work over one another's Backs, and hinder each other ; which is a loss to the King, and a great Cause why Ships are so long Equipping, there being a mystery under it, which ought to be discovered.

Now all this while here is a Latitude left by this method, as I spake of, for the Iron Work, Timber, and Materials, &c. to be spent on a beloved or a favourite Ship, as they call it, and placed to the account of the other, who all this while lies Rotting and Decaying shamefully, for want of careful Preventions.

As for the Preservation of Ships after built, I account it the most necessary and needful Charges, and that ought most especially to be regarded, before the building of new Ships; for every Hundred Pounds laid out well for Preservation of Ships, is of more Service, than two Thousand Pounds laid out upon new Ships, let it be managed never so well: For I would fain know wherein the Wisdom and Prudence of that Man lies, who, having two Houses required for his use, of equal bigness, they being in Decay, and that every Hundred Pound laid out upon Repairs of one of them, turns to more account for his Profit, and readier for his Use, than five Hundred Pound laid upon a new one: And the other being lately repaired, or built, and wants only some small Expences to be upon it, to preserve it for his use, at all times of need to be ready; and every Hundred Pound he layeth out
upon

76 **Naval Speculations, Or,**
upon that's Preservation, turns to his account of profit more than two Thousand Pound laid out towards building a new one; and yet notwithstanding he will neglect the other, and build it new; for that his chief Steward, or else his Master-workman, has blinded his cheif Steward, who have large private Interests in the building of new, or else their Interest runs like two Lines from the Circumference to the Centre. I cannot forbear to be thus plain, that Navy Ships, I fear, have been too much neglected in their Preservation, and that Builders have not been without their blame; and that no small Intrigues are and have been carried on for the Building and Repairing of Ships, I am well satisfied thereof.

I confess this matter, as many Particulars of great Weight, and also that of the Purveyors, and Contractors, may require a long discourse, and would be matter of Discovery of divers Mysteries; but

but because I have an Eye to my former Promise, not to expose the Affair, nor any Person therein, to the view of the World ; and that I do not affect the Title of an Informer ; but so as to cast a willing Mite into the Treasury, for the support of the Order and Government of the Navy, whereby it might be easier maintained (as to the vast Expence, and immense charge thereof) by the Nation, and serve the right Ends : *viz.* To preserve and maintain the Honour and Wealth of the Nation ; and by a Progression to encrease it, that they be not obnoxious to the Insulting, or Conquest, of their Neighbours, who design no less ; which is my chief End herein.

Now as for the Builders, Assistants, Master-Caulkers, Master-Joyner, Master-Mast-Maker, Master-Boat-BUILDER, Master-House-Carpenter, Ship-Wrights, Labourers, Sawyers. Tool-Grinders and Setters, and all the Artificers and Workmen,

78 Naval Speculations : Or,

men belonging to the respective Works, being under the Inspection of the Master-Builder, and Assistants, having not time to descend into small particulars, I will say no more here: But that the Master Carver, Anchor-Smith, Lock-Smith Painter, and Purveyor of small Stores, or petty Emptions, they being all Contractors, I will say only as I before said of the right Appropriations of the Stores, and true Qualifications therof, that the Door be shut against any Evils that may come in by Fraud, or wrong Application of the said Works: which brings me,

Fourthly, to the Storekeeper's-Office, who is also of great Trust in his Receipts and Issues of all manner of Stores; who gives also Security for his Office, to pass his Accompts, Debtor and Creditor, with the Clerk-Surveyor, or with the Clerk of the Comptroll, which was an Officer settled of late years in every Yard, and a Head-Office thereof at *London*. And therein

therein was found out an Employment for a Commissioner of the Board; but that being onely a Branch of the Surveyor's Office, it never appeared to me of any use; but as hiring Men to mud the Water, so it hath been for some time since discontinued at the Yards: But the Office aloft is continued; where many Lines and Columns of Stores are made, for the balancing of Store-keepers Accounts: Yet that heretofore, and now, ought to be kept by the Clerk-Surveyor; but he finding ease thereby, may be silent. The Storekeeper, I say, with his Clerks and Subs, are to be minded, that he, nor any of his Instruments, shall be negligent in their attendance, but be ready to make Dispatch in their Issues, and not to be morose and short in their Answers, and prolong the time in effecting the Import of the Notes and Bills, that are signed to them by the Master-Builder, his Assistant, Master-Attendant, or Clerk of the

80 **Naval Speculations** : Or,
the Survey, (for they all sign upon them
respectively ;) but that Boatswains, Car-
penters, &c. must give long attendance
for Dispatches, protracted for Lucre, ma-
ny great Evils ensuing to the Affair there-
by : Yet the Commissioner is commonly
to and again ; and if he be sharp sighted,
and willing to give himself the trouble,
will apply a seasonable Spur, as well to
them as all other slow Proceedings ;
which is a great branch of his Office, to
quicken, spur, and enliven the whole
Affair within his Jurisdiction.

Fifthly, The Master-Attendant is an
Officer of Business, and Trust, for trans-
porting of Ships in and out of the Har-
bor, taking care for laying the Ships
(all that enter the Port) at safe more-
ings; that they damnisie not each other, do
not break loose, &c. to take care to un-
store, ungun, unrigg, and unballast
them ; and bring them to and from the
Dock, and heave them into the Dock,
and

and out, provide Balast, and all manner of Rigging, Cables, Sails, Anchors, and Cordage for them; suitable and answerable Stores for their Voyage: And on their Returns again to survey the Boatswain's remains, and take care for the laying them up for Preservation; the Clerk of the Survey being the Surveyor's Instrument, for Surveying the Stores of as well the Boatswain's Stores, under the Master-Attendant his Oversight, as also the Carpenters Store's, under the Master-Builder's Oversight, passing their Accounts by the Vouches signed by the Builders, and Master-Attendant, of their Remains; and of the Captains their expence at Sea. The Master-Attendant also commands and directs the Labourers of the Yard; orders the cutting and making of Rigging at the Rigging House, appoints and directs the Ordinary; that is, the Boatswain's Servants, and extraordinary Men, born on the Ships in

G

Harbour;

82 **Naval Speculations:** Or,

Harbour; and takes notice of the respective Persons under his Command, of their either Neglect or Attending their Duty: All which he performs by his Substitutes, as by the Boatswains of Ships for the Ordinary, and when he detaches Labourers to work on Float, to clear Ships, heave Balast, &c. And for the Labourers, the Boatswain of the Yard, although warranted, works them; yet subordinate to the Master-Attendant: The said Yard-Boatswain also directs the Teams of draught Horses, for drawing of Timber, &c. and heaving it out of Vessels by Labourers; also all manner of Stores received in, and cleaning of the Docks and Yards, providing of Shovels, Pickaxes, Hand-spikes, Ropes, Blocks, and all Instruments to doe the said work, and for heaving in and out Ships at the Docks. The Master-Attendant also appoints Pilots for carrying Ships in and out of the Harbour, and signs their Bills
for

for it; as also the Huyes and Lighters, hired for carrying of Balast. His business is of large Extent, and he ought to be a Man of good Knowledge, as of the Practice of the Navy, so of the Shoals and Tides of the Harbour; a Man of Care, Industry, Courage, Temperance, Justice, and Honesty; and well encouraged and supported in his Commands: So ought also the Checque, Builders, &c. in their respective Stations, appointed by the Commissioner of the Place, and also of the Board: Whereas if he be void of Knowledge, great Damages will ensue to Ships, in their Transportations and Riddings, he not being acquainted with the Shoals; and setting of Tides, and the lyings of Moreings in the Harbour: the elder Boatswain indeed may be his Guide, who officiates under him; but they will be apt to be cross, and think they are wronged of their Birthright, whose opinion I cannot condemn: Neither can I

84 **Naval Speculations** : Or,
think it either just, expedient, or safe,
to the King's Service; to put a stranger
who never served, nor knew the Practice
of the *Navy*, over the heads of able
Men, who have spent their whole
days in the said Service; and therefore
I cannot forbear to say here, as I have
else where said in the Preferment and
Encouragement of Clerks: For it is hard
measure, that a Man shall be neglected,
and put by Preferment, not for any In-
ability, but that he hath not made Inte-
rest enough, or is not willing to down
with his dust; although he has served his
Life long, and is a Man of much Expe-
rience and Merit; which sort of Men, as
I have elsewhere said, are Modest, and
backward to offer to buy (as I there
called it) their Fetters.

One thing I have forgotten to hint be-
fore, the which perhaps may not be un-
fitly applyed here, it being an Observa-
tion I have made in the *Navy*, *viz.* That
it

it is the Opinion and Practic of many, not the best Officers, that they will bid the highest rate for Advancement; concluding, that when attained they are arrived into the Land of *Canaan*, (*viz.* Rest,) but not of Promise to them; but was promised, perhaps, to more meritorious Men, but that their Money and Interest came short: yet of Rest they are resolved to make it; concluding, that their Profits being encreased, their Cares should be abated: And therefore they do resolve to live quiet and secure, and act that part that shall procure them that; and let the World go round, if their Policy fail not, their sleep shall be sound; and let the inferiour be industrious and full of cares: But I think it is altogether unsuitable to the Mind of a good Man or Christian, a good Officer, or Leigeman to his King and Country; and also should think, the higher his Office the more his Cares; not only in the sight of

86 **Nabal Speculations:** Or,
good Men, but required by God: For
the Sword of Justice was never designed
by him to be put into the hands of one
who will sheath it, and play the Truant:
Wherefore I am well assured, that it
would contribute to the Welfare and
Promotion of the Glory and Strength of
the Navy and Nation, and be most a-
greeable to the Dictates of God Almight-
ty to let Justice be plentifully administred
through the whole Series of the Affair;
that the least Member thereof may gather
enough for the Expence of his Family, of
that Heavenly Dew or Manna, which is
the Emanations of Heaven upon Man;
and he that hath Justice in him, hath
(although but weakly) one of the Cardi-
nal Attributes of God. I will end this
Paragraph with a Declamation against
the Injustice of some years past; To dis-
pose of the places of the biggest Ships, un-
to young uncapable Men, that never
served in the Affair; nor, I beleive, ne-
ver

ver will, when need requires it; but, like the Drones in the Bee-hive, live at home, and spend the Honey, and the publick Service serve only them: Nay, one Employment hath not been enough, but two or three of the best; I mean, of the middle Stations of the *Navy*; I say, two or more have been one Man's share, and deserving Men, of good and approved Abilities, and of long standing and service, have been put by, or onely continued in their low and beginning Station; and by consequence must veil to Children and Pupils in Business, if they will have Bread.

But I return to my Master-Attendant, who, if he be not a Man of Novel Inventions, and break the Practices of the Yards, and do not be put upon through his Weakness, and Ignorance of his Authority, and Right of Command, by any malevolent and turbulent Boatswain, that acts under him; and who tells him,

88 **Nabal Speculations**. Or,
that it is not the Duty of the Ordinary
to heave out the Provisions left in the
Ships; for they are not the King's, but
the Purser's; and so cause the Wheels to
stand still, and the Docks to stand void,
as I have before hinted, and so damnifie
the Service considerably, and also the
Officer: I say, he ought also to have
Courage, and stand on his Right of Com-
manding Men out of Ships, to clear o-
thers, as the necessity of the Service re-
quires, and the Commissioner of the place
directs; although there be a Captain
that denies his Men to do it, except they
be paid for it; I say he ought to bid hard
up to the positive Point, and there to
leave it, and the Damages thereof, at
the Captains or Commissioners Doors.
So that you see, that the Vertue of Cou-
rage must not be wanting; for if it be,
he cannot perform the Service well. Al-
so Justice and Honesty he ought to be
well stockt with; otherwise he will be
tempted

tempted to connive with the Boatſwain's Embezlements, and ſign over large Expences; and he may be tempted to ſign over large Ballaſt Bills: and again, he may abuſe and hinder many other good Officers in their Servants, under the pretence of Uprightneſs to the King's Buſineſs; and pour out his Favours upon his Creatures: I ſay, this Officer ought to be endued with very good Vertues, or elſe he may, inſtead of doing much Service to the Affair, do very much Diſſervice, &c.

Sixthly, The Clerk of the Survey is an Officer preſented thereto by the Surveyor, but warranted by the *Admiralty*, who keeps the Account of all Stores received into the Yard by the Storekeeper; ſurveys them at their Entrance, and is one that ſigns the Bills for them to the Navy-board. He ſurveys all Remains of Stores at the Returns of Ships from Sea; of Boatſwains, and Carpenters, and paſſes

90 **Naval Speculations:** Or,
passes their Accompts: He signs Vouch-
es to Storekeepers for Sea Stores, with
the Master-Attendant, and Builders, with
whom, and the Storkeepers, his Business
interferes very much; and his Affair or
Duty being in a less compass, and with-
out the reach of much Disquiet, or Trou-
ble, he may be the more happy, if he
be a Man of that Temper to use it so:
His business being retired, and within
himself, his Temptations to Dishonesty
are the more and more recluse and pri-
vate, having opportunities thereby to
cause him to fall, and break his Trust;
and therefore had need be a Man endow-
ed with honest and just Principles: Also
he ought to be of good knowledge in the
Nature of Stores, and a ready Clerk for
Accompts. Mostly the Surveyor takes
great care to present a fit and experien-
ced Clerk, otherwise it would distract his
Office aloft; and commonly he presents
one that has served before in some under
Clerk-

Clerkship of the same Office ; which is a sort of Justice I wish were practised throughout the *Navy* : I am sure he is the more safe and quiet in his business ; and no doubt the better Dispatches are made therein by People apt and known to the business ; without Tricks, Projects or new Fangles for Lucre. I know no Office in the *Navy* of that Quantity, that transacts their Business with Dispatch, with so little Notice or Perturbation, and are so very sedate and quiet ; undoubtedly the more happy themselves, and those that negotiate with them, and the Services of the King in that Affair go or at least run, in the streight Chanel, without Meanders and Turnings.

Seventhly, The Rope-house, *viz.* the Clerk and Master-Rope-maker are the Guides of that Affair, only the Master-Attendant sometimes may inspect or order some sizes of Ropes and Cordage, Cabels, &c. to be made, as they are needed ;

92 **Rabal Speculations:** Or,
needed; and also sometimes his Orders are necessary to detatch some of the Ordinary, or Labourers, to twist the great Cables. Indeed this Office is very distinct from interfering with any of the rest of the Offices; only the Master-Attendant may detatch some of their Hands, to help to heave a Ship in or out of the Dock, or the Master-Builder, on some emergencies; the nature of their Work being such, that they do their work often by Task, and so commonly do their day's Work by two or three a Clock: The Clerk hereof has a fine, quiet Business, and very separate, if he be a good spirited Man, so to use it, and to be just towards the King and the Men; for he keeps the Prick and Checque over them, and makes the quarterly Books up for their pay, and the Clerk of the Checque meddles not with them.

But there is an Affair dependant, or appendant rather; yet it is separate: For
there

there is a Rope-maker that makes up all the old and half worn Cables, and Cordage, opens the Strands and knits them, and makes them up into Cordage again; and it is called twice laid stuff, and serves for running Ropes, Port Ropes, Stage Ropes, and small Cordage. At *Portsmouth* it is prettily managed; the said Ropemaker contracts for so much by the Hundred, and has Tarr allowed him; the Storekeeper delivers it to him, and receives it from him, and certifies his Quantities; and the King's Rope-maker is excluded, in that particular Yard only, from having any Cognisance therein; who is the most able Man to inspect it, and oversee the Work, that it be done as it ought; and no more made, or certified to be made, than is needful; or that too much Tarr be not put into it: But it is there finely carried; so that there is more made thereof in that Yard in a Year, than is in all the Yards beside put together:

94 **Nabal Speculations:** Or,
together : It amounts to about four Hun-
dred Pounds, some Years, bare Work-
manship, which the Man doth himself,
and two or three Servants, Boys, for
the most part. I accuse not, but it is
worth Observation, which is all I have
to say of the Rope-house.

Eightly, All the other Offices, *viz.*
Mast-maker, Boat-builder, Joyner, &c.
are under the Builder's Orders: But the
Clerk of the Checque, if he be a fit Man,
will espie some Works doing in the Joi-
nery, Painters, and Carvers Offices, for
the Beautifying of Mens Houses with
Cabinets, fine Utensils of divers kinds,
Costly, and more to the King; for what
is done there, costeth the King twice as
much Time and Materials as it is worth. In
this nature divers Offices are corrupted:
I fall not on particulars, but great Summs
may be spent that kind of way; for Work
and Materials may serve to adorn Mens
Houses, or build them about the Town :
These

These things are too obvious, and may not, ~~may~~, must not be denied, and all by connivance; and yet at the same time Thrift pretended, and scruple to let a Warrant-Officer on board have a small Lock for his Cabin, or Store-Room: I say, these all are under the Builder's Direction, but he is blinded, and cannot see it; but the Clerk of the Checque ought to visit them, and checque them; as also the Labourers, that are employed by greedy and purloining Officers of the Yard, if they set them to work in their Gardens, do all the small and great Offices about their Houses, run abroad any where about Errands, and absent themselves at any rate, under the pretence of being an Officer's Man, or Boat-man; the King may loose no small matter Yearly, I say, if a Clerk of the Checque be not a Man every way well appointed to his Business.

And

96 **Naval Speculations:** Or,

And thus I will conclude with the Yards; that they are all warranted from the *Admiralty*, and are under the Command, and definite Orders of the Commissioner of the Place: But the Carver, Painter, Smiths, &c. I reckon not of the Yards, but are dependants; and therefore I will say a few things to them here; That is thus:

That Carved Work on the Ships is come, with the Painting them, to be a good part of the Charge of the Ship, and is not of any intrinsic value, in any manner of Proportion to the cost, contributing to the good of the Service, or Strength of the Nation; but, on the contrary, serves to rot the Ships, entangle them when two Ships happen to come together, and most dangerous of burning the Ships when Fire-Ships shall board them: For it is generally the Carved Work that takes Fire first, and it runs on it like Wild-Fire, by means of the Oyl of
the

the Paint; and many times the Carved Work is as rotten as Touch-wood, and will take fire even with a Wad, or Coal of a Cartridg, or Tobacco. You may moderately compute the charge of Carving and Painting, that is needless unto the Navy, at the twentieth part of the charge of the Hulls of the Ships of the Navy; which now may be thought considerable, when the Navy is swollen to so great a bulk, and a certain necessity to have it greater: For our Neighbours put so fair for the Dominion of the Seas, that I doubt, before the Naval Force of Christendom will be settled in a General Peace, this Kingdom may happen to be put to many hard Tugs, to maintain their Right; and the Wealth of the Nation, together with the Bloud thereof, will be greatly exhausted; and therefore for the saving the one from profuse Expences, and preserving the Breeding and Maintaining the other, is of no small consideration at this

H

time;

98 **Naval Speculations**: Or,
time; and the more timely it be considered, we may with the more facility effect our desires. As for the former, I compute the unnecessary charge thereof, by the thirty last Ships, by the Parliament's Order built, if the Money they gave for it (as I think) was six hundred thousand Pounds, and the King spent two hundred thousand more, in all eight hundred thousand Pounds; (admit that that were the cost;) I compute the Carving and Painting at the Fortieth part of the whole, allowing the Hulls to be but the half of that cost, which is Four hundred thousand Pounds: Then the Carving and Painting is the Twentieth part thereof, which is Twenty thousand Pounds profuse Expences, out of Four hundred thousand Pounds spent on Hulls; which Twenty thousand Pounds might be saved, and with more safety and security to the Ships from Fire, and less rotting their Work.

The Arguments against this Thrift are usually the Splendor of the Navy, and the Discouragement of Arts. The Arguments being weak, the Confutation may be short; which is thus: The true Splendor and Glory of the Navy lies in the good Government thereof, the Easiness of the Expence to the Nation, and the Atchievement of great Actions, preserving the Honour, Safety, and Wealth of the Nation; and not in Adorning of our Ships: And for the Arts of Painting and Carving, it is not worthy to be named, in comparison with the Cost of the Affair. The means of this Profuseness hath been created by Interest of Builders at the Navy Board, every one endeavouring to excel each other in the Beautifying their own Works, thereby to bring them and themselves into the greater Esteem; and that they might be so with the Commanders, they have not stay'd there, but endeavour'd also to exceed each other in the contriving the Accom-

100 **Naval Speculations**: Or,
modations for them, to that degree, that
the other Officers, and the Seamen, are
pent up into too little and small Accom-
modations and Conveniencies; and the
Warlike Uses and Intentions thereof neg-
lected, and much impeded; the which I
shall more plainly make appear, when I
am come on Board.

Yet before I leave the Yard, I must take
leave of the Porter, who hath shut the
Gate upon me; who is an Officer also,
and warranted from the Admiralty: His
Office is to open and shut the Gates, and
either himself or helper to be always at his
Post, to take notice of all that enter or
go out thereof all the day time; and to
see the Watch set, giving them such In-
structions as he shall receive from the Com-
missioners: If he be a temperate, careful,
and honest man, he may prevent much
Evils, which otherwise will slide without
notice; by giving the Commissioner,
Checque, Builder, and all the other chief
Officers,

Officers, needfull notice, and true information of what they shall see, or they enquire after ; and tell them I am gone on Board, and dare not lie a night with my Wife, although come lately from Sea.

Ninthly, The Officers of the Ordinary are, a Purser, a Boatswain, a Gunner, a Carpenter, and a Cook, of each Ship ; with Servants according as the Rate of the Ship will bear.

The Boatswain is ordered by the Master-Attendant to come where he has ordered a Jack to be hoisted on the Ensign-Staff, and there to work the Servants and extraordinary Men, till about two a Clock, except the Emergencies be the greater ; and after the Work to repair on Board their respective Ships, and to clean them as is needful :

The Carpenter to go with his Servant to work on Float where the Master-BUILDER, or Assistant shall direct, in such like order as the Boatswain.

The Purser and Gunner, in their turns, look to the Ships all the Day time, and in the Night take their Watches in their turns, with either Boatswain or Carpenter.

The Purser takes care for Victualing them every Month, from the Shoar, and carries the Warrants signed by the Checque, and Master-Attendant, after every Monthly Muster made by the Clerk of the Checque, in the presence of the Commissioner; and takes notice of every absence by Discharge, Death, or Runaway: And to the Checque grounds his Warrants for the ensuing Month's Victuals, which the Purser, when effected, signs to the Victualler, and he provides them Beer, Firing, Candle, and Necessaries, *viz.* Canns, Platters, &c. and accounts with the Victualler for the Provisions, and the necessary Money which is allowed, *viz.* One Shilling *per* Man, *per* Month.

The

The Gunner goes in Guard Boat, in his turn with the other Gunners, one every Night in Summer, and two in the Winter, to row and drive up and down the Harbour in Guard Boats, kept on purpose, and Men detached from the Ships, as the Commissioner directs, or committed to some Captain riding there. They are to serve as Espials, or Watches on Float, to take notice what Boats pass, and to examine what they do abroad after the Watch is set; which is by a Gun Fired, about the Twilight, by the said Captain directed for the oversight of the Watch in the Harbour: The said Boat is to go about the Ships, and take notice if there be a Watch kept on Board, and one walking upon the Deck all Night; and where they find any Neglect, or any Disorder, by keeping of Fire, or Candle light all the Night, or Drunkenness, to hale them; and, if not answered, to put on Board, and inform themselves of

104 **Naval Speculations** : Or,
the Disorder : They also are to see what
Boats pass untimely ; if purloining of
Stores, stealing of Customes, &c. of all
which Misbehaviours he is to acquaint the
said Captain, and he the Commissioner,
if worth the taking notice of ; and some-
times the Commissioner visits them in the
Night for the same purpose ; and oftner
the Checque, to observe their Atten-
dance.

And here I call to remembrance, for some
time since, the rigid and strict Hands car-
ried over these poor People, by a colour-
able Pretence of Vigilance in the King's
Business, and exacted constant Duty from
them, both by Day and Night, glorying in
the act of catching any one on Shoar, to
visit his Family, and suspending many,
to their great Impoverishment to solicit
their Restoration ; contrary to every
Officer's Instructions, as their Duty gi-
ven them from the Navy Board ; of which
I will say more, when I come to Sea. But

I apprehend these Proceedings tended not to the Service of the King ; for two Officers on Board in the Night, and one in the Day, is as much as can in any wise be needful, considering the Hardships Men are put to : But when come Home, and near their own Doors, from the Fatigue of the Seas and Wars ; and not to be suffered to converse with their Wives and Families, but even as an Adulterer steals to an Harlot ; which Severities acted by them, exceed the Inhumanity of the *Ægyptian* Task-masters, being beside and beyond the Officers Instructions signed by them, a preposterous Proceeding, where good Method and Order is required : But it served the Trick of their Design, to put a Mask before their Superiours Eyes, when they came before them to acquaint them of the needful, made this their Cardinal Care, to exact a both needless, inhumane, and undue Duty ; to the great Discomfort and Undoing of many

106 **Naval Speculations:** Or,
ny poor, needy, but good Officers: In-
fomuch that many died with Grief and
Colds, and divers lived miserable with
Sickness and Poverty; and sometime an
act of Grace was past: But all this, I
reckon, sprang from the same Root, as
the Designs were practised for; one time
fiercely to vex and disturb the Dissenters,
and then to promulgate Liberty by Grace;
and all the while to bring an *Odium*
upon the Church: So this to unhinge and
and disorder the well settled Government
and Tranquillity of the *Navy*; the which
being disjointed, it would, nay, must
have expected to have fallen into the
Hands, and under the sole Management
of a few; who, beside their Policy in
twisting Designs to enrich themselves,
knew as little of the true Government of
the Affairs of the *Navy*, as they intended
it should serve for the Safety, Honour,
and Welfare of the Nation. And so I
will leave these miserable, poor Officers,
wishing

wishing themselves Dead, or some way delivered from their Captivity by a Voyage to Sea, where perhaps they might meet with a Discharge from all by Death, Life being become miserable, and Death more desirable to them; and so cursing their Fates to be bred up to an Employment, that hath, in their mature Years, failed to obtain for them, in a reasonable degree, Sustainance for themselves and Families they have contracted about them; their fates falling so heavy upon them, by the Machinations and Devices of designing Men, finding the Juncto suitable both in the Principals and the Adherents, to alter and misgovern such an Affair, and ruine them, together with the loss of the Glory, Honour, and Safety of the Nation, and to the Acquirement of Honour, and Riches to the designing Prosecutors, or rather Persecutors.

I V. Of the Victualling Office.

1. *A Comptroller.*
2. *A Surveyor.*
3. *A Treasurer.*
4. *An Out-rider, or Riding Surveyor.*
5. *Clerk Accomptant of Receipts, Issues, and Returns; a Clerk of the Actions of the Board; a Clerk of the Cutting-house; a Clerk of the Cooperidge, Cutters, Salters, Boat-takers, and Wharfingers.*
6. *Agents and Store-keepers abroad.*

THE *Commissioners for Victualling*, is a new Office; heretofore it hath been managed by Contractors; as Mr. *Crane* in King *Charles* the First's time; but in the late time of Exile, it had divers Contractors;

tractors ; as, one or more at every Port, and divers aloft ; which Practice I cannot blame : For that Affair being of that nature, which does admit such sort of Profits, which is the only Support and Gain of the same, without it they could not do it at such rates as they have contracted for ; that is, by buying, and encouraging the Purfers to buy, of the Officers and Mariners, their Salt Provisions ; (for any one may judge, that those Provisions are neither wholesome nor toothsome ;) because the Captain and all the Officers and Mariners that have Money, and opportunity, will, at every Port they come at, get some fresh Eatables, of Flesh, Fish, or Garden Fruits, &c. the Purser buying the Salt of them, and letting them have Money at all times to refresh themselves therewith ; the which the Purser does commonly do for all the Ship's Company, when he comes to a Port where the price of fresh Provisions will bear it, having
Money

110 **Naval Speculations:** Or,
Money by him always for that purpose,
and is a piece of very good Service; for
it makes the Provisions last out longer,
that the Ships may keep the Seas longer;
and also refreshes the Men, who are o-
therwise made sickly, and die for want of
Change of Diet; having no Money a
long while.

And although the Commissioners for
the King may slight it, yet the Contract-
ors never looked upon it otherwise than
as the profitablest Plant in that Garden:
Nay, it is many times a Profit to the Pur-
ser, for his Encouragement; for without
that, I think, it is in vain to expect Men
should take upon them to serve the Pub-
lick; and our Saviour himself saith, *Men*
go not to War on their own cost: And he
that pretends to serve the Publick, with-
out expectation of some (though smaller)
Honour and Riches, at least, I believe
him not: Nay, a prospect of a Compens-
ation answerable to his Hazard and Trou-
ble;

ble; or, that it may provide him with Competency of Livelihood, even comparable to those of his Brethren, trained up with like Education, and disposed either to the Law, Physick, Merchandize, Shop-keeping, Farming, or Manufacturing at home, &c. Yet often, and very often, it proves nothing so; and most often their Brethren, that spend their Time and Tallent at home, have such a gradual Encrease of their Wealth, that, after a term of years be past, they are out of the Danger of Impoverishment: Whereas their publick-serving Brother is, after the said Term, even then as hard at Cringing and Creeping to his Superior, as ever, that he might continue or increase his Maintenance, for the Support of his Family he hath gotten; or else is disappointed by the loss of Friends, who are either dead before him, or put beside the Cushion; and having fallen upon the Lot of bad Voyages; Mischances, cross, and
ruining

112 **Nabal Speculations:** Or,
ruining Circumstances, which have left
him both Moneyless, and Friendless, and
full of Family, and Years, and so with
Grief makes his *Exit* ; and leaves his de-
layed and protracted Accounts to the
management of the Unmerciful and Un-
compassionate, who too commonly make
a Prey of the Remains, if any be ; and
leave the Widow and Family as ignorant
of the Proceedings, as without Substance ;
and rendring the Security for them within
their Reach, to be shorn by them : I
say, this is the fate of too many that of
late years have served the Publick in that
Affair ; their utter Ejection having been
projected long since, and the Efforts to-
wards the bringing it about having gone
on in a continued Progression, seemingly,
now to be ripe for its effecting : Having,
I say, so altered the Methods and Ma-
nagement of that Office, That there ap-
pears in it but few Persons truly qualified
for it ; for often those who are put into
it,

it, are Recommended by those whose designs are for the Extirpation of them, or at least to continue the Shadow thereof a while longer; yet it shall be only the Shadow, and not the Nature and Substance: But the Methods and Practice of the Office is so altered, and subjected to the Superior, that the Service hath nought but the Footsteps of that Office left; nor can Benefit or Safety thereby in any Measure be expected to the King, the Service, or the Men; but the Affair turned under a Monopolized and Despotical Power. But the contriving the management of the Victualling by Commissioners, being a Principal Wheel to turn about the chief Projection thereof, what relates to their Management and late Proceedings therein, I am now to prosecute. And,

First, Five Commissioners are made to carry on this Affair, with large Sallaries, and Allowances of Dwellings, and of what they think good for their Families in

I

the

114 **Naval Speculations**: Or,
the Offices ; it being at the King's Charge.
These Men, I say, are Grandated at a
Board ; to hear and receive all Contract-
ors Propositions, and pass their Bills for
Payment on their Cashier ; inspect the
Proceedings of their several Offices ; gi-
ving them Warrants and Orders for their
Proceedings. Now if these Commissio-
ners be unskilled in this Affair, *viz.* in the
Nature of the Flesh, its Seasons for buy-
ing ; (for very much skill is required for
the knowledge in the buying, not only
for the quantity, but the quality ; for the
Cattel may be bought in the Market after
great Drift, and Pineing, only to sweep
the Market, because of lower Prices,
when the loss thereby will return ten-fold ;
beside the disappointment of the Service,
and the destroying of the Lives and
Healths of the Men ; filling the Service
full of Confusion and Discontent, and
extreamly weakening the Affair ; and in
fine, making it more chargeable to the
King ;

King; it having been a well-ordered and well-governed Affair, by the best Management imaginable.) Now, I say, if the said Principals have no Insight nor Knowledge in the Affair, nor in the laudable Customs of *Maritime* Proceedings in the *Naval* Affairs, (I mean the King's;) What may not the Officers under them put on them? What Methods shall hold them? Or, what Steadiness can there be in their constant Proceedings, to be just to all that negotiate with them, and all the whole Affair to be at a certainty of good and wholesome Provisions, provided at the best Seasons, and at the best Rates? I say, How can this consist with Reason, if it may be (not to say it must be) committed to the Subs; and only for form have the Approbation of the Principals; especially if the Subs shall be Novices too, and not Men qualified for business?

I could say a very great deal more in this Affair; but the sight thereof hath filled my Mind with so much matter of Discourse, that I am confounded, like the Affair; and know not how to speak to it, so as to take a view of each part: Into which Method, if I proceed, I should be too tedious in this Work; which I meant but as an Essay, for a Trial, hoping some abler Pen will erect a Mansion upon my Cottage; and therefore I shall only add hereto, That when Contractors had it, they were forced to look sharply to the Affair, and to employ able and knowing People; and to let nothing of any private Interest creep into the Affair; and to be sure to buy good Provisions, and to have them well preserved: And if any Humorous Commanders refused, or abused the same; then their Instruments gave a good account thereof, and the same was turned to the King's Damage; for if there were any other Proceed-

ceedings in the Receipts, Returning, or Expending the same, than what was the Ancient Customs of the *Navy*, and according to the Prescriptions in their Contracts; so that all things went on according to the Ancient Methods of the *Navy*, and Customs in *Maritime Affairs*; and seldom was there found any great Defects in Provisions, nor any disorderly Returns, Refusings, or Abuses: If any were to their damage, they would be sure to acquaint the *Navy-Board* for Redress, and cause the Offenders to be questioned; and that deterred them from offering it, knowing that it would not pass without notice; and the Contractors also, knowing that if the Affair were not carefully and diligently managed, it would turn to their great Damages; and if the Fleets were disappointed, it would be their breach of Covenants, and fall heavy upon them: For they could not make such Interest as to have it expiated at an easie rate, nor with

118 **Naval Speculations** Or,
colourable Pretences; so that both they,
and all their Friends engaged with them,
and their whole Value, lay liable to the
King for satisfaction; nor could any Sale
of Estate, or Gift, made during the time
they were Accomptants to the King, de-
fend it from the King's Seisures: So that,
I say, there must be no room for insuffici-
ent, careless, or negligent Instruments,
by private Interest; nor for any Wrongs
done to any of the King's Servants, nego-
tiating with them, without making Re-
paration. Therefore, that the so great
Affair might be managed, that there
might be computed the certain Costs the
King shall be at, for the Maintainance of
his *Maritime Strength*, and not fall under
the power of any Interest, to make it cost
more; and with surety and safety perfor-
med, as by the Contractors is made appear
to be, is a Condition most desirable, and
requisite, for the *Navy* to be constituted
and settled in.

But

But if it does appear to the Wise and Knowing, That it would better answer the ends aforesaid to be managed by the King's Commissioners; then to that end I will make a few steps that way, and premise, as in the Heads aforesaid; That it does consist of a *Comptroller*, a *Surveyor*, and a *Treasurer*, all resident at the Office; except an Emergency calls them to the Ports; to avoid which, there is needful to be an Out-rider, or Riding *Surveyor*, whose business should be to visit the Ports and Fleet, and to enliven and quicken the Affair, and spur all the remote Instruments to the diligent and careful performance of their Duties, in their respective Stations; and to mark all Errors, and to give account thereof to the Board for Redress; That Provisions be not damnified by tossing them to and from Ships, and suffer great Damages, and Demurrages of the Vessels, by leaving them unspent, whiles they may be preserved; and that

Naval Speculations: Or, the Instruments do not make slow and slack Dispatches, under small pretences for Lucre, and study chiefly their own Profits; or to damnify any one that negotiates with them, by undue and unpracticable Proceedings, and Delays of Payments; the which would bring a general Disreputation on the Action, and cause it to be the more chargeable to the *King*; and is also extremely hurtful to the Affair. Wherefore,

Fifthly, The *Clerk-Accomptant* of Receipts, Issues, and Returns, should be a Man of great Abilities, Honesty, and Justice, rightly to state all Matters to the Board, and to pass all the Accompts under the Approbation and Allowance of the *Navy-Board*; that they might be engrossed into the *Treasurer* of the *Navy* his Ledger, and exhibited to the *Exchequer*; so that Estimates might be made upon all Exigencies that may offer.

The

The Clerk of the Actions of the Board, ought to be a good Clerk and Secretary, to dispatch good Instructions and Reprimands, in proper Terms ; and to preserve all Precedents and Orders in good Method for Review, when needful.

The Clerk of the Cutting-house, ought to be sworn to do his Office justly, and faithfully ; as also to see that his Packers under him be Sworn, and do execute their Office truly and justly ; to mark the Contents faithfully and right.

The Clerk of the Cooperidge also to be Sworn to see the due Gages put on all Casks for Beer.

The Salters under the Clerk of the Cutting-house his Inspection, ought to do their Office carefully, and painfully ; and the Boat-takers, and Wharfingers to be diligent to provide for the Transport of the Provisions where ordered, and to give them quick Dispatches ; also to receive the Returns carefully, and to preserve
and

and return them to the respective Offices, where they are to be reposit-
ed for Repairs, Re-package, Dispo-
sal and Ordering; and not to let Vessels
lie by with Demurrage, for want of De-
liverance, to the Loss and Discomfort of
the Owners, and hinderance of the Af-
fair: In which there is no small matter to
be considered, in the doing Right and
Justice to the Brewers, Bakers, and to
the Cheese-mongers, &c. according to
their Contracts; and to the Owners of
Vessels, for their Fraights, and Demur-
rages. In which, if it be not rightly and
exactly performed, the *Commissioners* can-
not easily do Justice, and judge aright be-
tween the *King* and them, according to
their Contracts and Agreements for A-
batements, or Allowances, &c. It is a
great point of the *Surveyor's* Business, to
judge and determine of Defects by him-
self, or to choose two Men Sworn there-
to; as their Contracts respectively shall
intimate and direct.

Sixthly,

Sixthly, The Agents and Store-keepers abroad ought to do all the same thing that is done at *London*; but by the Orders and Directions of the Commissioners at the General Office, for Victualling at *London*, the said Agent buys Provisions, contracting for the same to be served in as the Season offers, and as he hath Directions from the Commissioners, with whom he keeps a continual Correspond, and without whom, or their Directions, he can do nothing of moment: He draws his Bills for Money on them, and receives Money from some Receivers of Taxes, as the Commissioners also can get Assignments from the Treasurer of the *Navy*, and he from the Lords of the Treasury, on parts of the Revenue: He indents with the Purser, he superinspects the whole Affair of Victualling at that Port, if there be no Commissioner or Riding Surveyor at the place, which in all times of Action extraordinary there should be;

be; and whensoever any one is there, then he supersedes him. The said Agent is a person placed in great Trust; for he has the Oversight of all, even as a Commissioner aloft has; and indeed his Office imports all that theirs does, *viz.* For the prudent managing and quick dispatching; only it lies not at his door to take care that there be sufficient Provisions at the Port, or Monies to supply all Emergencies; he is only to give the Commissioners constant and timely Account, and to do and see put in Execution all the Commissioners Orders and Advices, that he from time to time shall receive from them: and not to give any Allowances for Damages, or allow any thing of moment for Demurrages, Casual Accidents, or Mistakes, without advising them first, and receive ample Instructions from them for it. And, in fine, he is an Image or Deputy of the Commissioners; yet more properly a Husband; or, as the
name

name more properly signifies, an Agent to act or do; yet as a Substitute to, and put in by the said Commissioners, unto whom he is only accountable, and no where or otherwise concerned, than as his either general Instructions, or particular Orders direct him. His general Instructions ought to prescribe him his Methods in general, for supplying of Ships wants; by what Vouchers or Warrants, he should order Deliveries; whose Orders he must obey, without appealing to them for Advice, and whose not; and whatsoever he hath not in his general Instructions, he ought to advise the Victualling Board therewith, and expect their Orders therein: He is of principal moment at the Port, I say, he being Resident, and in the absence of a Commissioner, is to cause the whole Affair to move by his Dictates; and gives his Orders to the Store-keeper, for issuing and receiving; and also for Deliveries to
Brewers,

126 **Nabal Speculations** Or,
Brewers, Bakers, and Coopers, &c. And
next under him is the Store-keeper, who
is warranted by the Commissioners also,
but Sub to the Agent: He receives and
issues by the Dictates and Orders of him:
He takes care for the Cutting, Salting,
Packing, and Stowing of the said Provi-
sions, and the Transporting them on
Board the Ships; receiving them back as
Returns; and taking care for Sifting, Re-
packing, Overhalling, and preserving
them; and should give the Agent an ac-
count of the condition and quantities of
them, at all reasonable demands. For
Quantities the Agent should be as well
able to know as himself; for he ought not
to receive or issue any thing, without his
Orders; the which the Agent ought to
enter, as Debtor and Creditor, to him;
thereby he should be able to give the
Board a state of the Quantities in a Post's
time; but absolute Qualities he cannot,
without a Survey, but something near he
might,

might, if it be duely done, and in good Method, as such an Affair of Quantity requires: For that Affair, the whole Welfare thereof, *viz.* the Readiness and Serviceableness thereof to the King, is of great moment in the business I am treating of; the which is no small Affair to the Kingdom: I say, it is in the Management thereof, and may easily, by persons that are ignorant of it, or were never brought up, or had any practice or knowledge therein, be brought to great Damages, and be made extreme chargeable to the King: For Prudent Management is a great part of this Affair for Profit; and the best and surest way to it, is to have Good Instruments therein, and not to put Pupils and Novices into such Affairs, to serve Private Interests; that is, to make the Treasure, nay, if not the Wealth and Strength of the Nation, be spent, or do truckle to, and serve the Interest of some particular Persons in
their

128 **Naval Speculations:** Or,
their Relatives and Parties. As I have
elsewhere decried the Practice, so I do
here also, *viz.* not to putby Men of
approved Knowledge and Experience in
the said Business, and of long Service,
and in the room put in Novices, Pu-
pils, and every way unfit, on purpose
to serve a Private Interest: It is but the
worst way of making the Publick main-
tain them.

V. Of other Irregularities in the Navy.

1. The Clothier, or, Slop-seller.

2. The Purser, or whom he shall get to Issue.

3. The Mariner Buying, and the Paymaster Defalking.

THE Slop-seller, is a Person crept into the Navy, I mean to Monopolize the vending of Cloathing solely, but since the Restoration of King Charles the Second; nor then, but by degrees, as he could make Interest, and have Interest in the Affair.

For I remember Mr. Richard Beckford, and Mr. Burrows did vend chiefly to the Navy; but not to hinder any others to Issue. For Mr. Thomas Beckford, afterwards Knight, Brother to the said Richard

K

and

130 **Nabal Speculations:** Or,
and others, but as his Stock, and willing-
ness of the *Purfers* to Issue for him, did
encrease, did vend, and did endeavour
to under-sell, and out-do each other ;
but as yet his Interest could not reach to
Ingross it, until after some time, as he grew
able, did procure a Warrant from the
Duke of York, then *Lord High Admiral*,
to have the sole vending to the *Navy* ;
yet, under the fair Pretences of shewing
Samples to the *Navy-Board*, and they a-
greeing Prices for the Particulars ; which
Prices were followed indeed, but the
Qualities of the Goods were debased, as
he thought good : There was also added
to the fairness thereof, That when they
were opened on Board, if the Commander
did not think them reasonable good ac-
cording to the Prices, he should abate the
Prices, or stop the Issuing of them. Who
could expect that a Captain should be a-
ble to judge indifferently of such Goods,
or, that the *Slop-seller* should stand
to

to the Judgment of every Captains knowledge, or justice towards his Concerns? But this effect it hath had, That if the *Parser* have dared to set down any lower price, than what his Invoyses mentioned, he must pay it himself; and so he had like order to the *Pay-master* of the Navy, to be accountable to him for all the whole Defalcation of the Ships Books; so that if the *Parser* took, or bought any Cloathing of any at better Prices, and more suitable to the Seamens Wants, and set it off upon the Books, the *Pay-master*, and *Slop-seller* understanding each other, brought all, viz. Dead-mens Cloaths, sold at the Mast, or any one Furnishing the Marriner in his Sicknes and Wants, to the *Slop-sellers* Credit; and out of his Hands it was not easily, nor wholly gotten, but at his Pleasure: And thereby, all People willing to assist the Seaman in his Wants, upon the Credit of his Pay, were thereby Deterred, and the Sailer totally

K 2

frustra-

frustrated of any choise, or good Market for his Money, but that called *Hobson's Choice*, *That or none*: In all which care taken for the good of the Sailer, and to keep him healthy and well in the Service, seems to me to have a quite contrary Effect; and indeed is no other than a Method to make one Man Rich, at the cost of many Thousands, and to the loss of many Mens Lives and Healths; so consequently to the Impairing of the Service, for the truth of it is, That every Man that serves the King for Wages, hath a Right thereto, as good as any Man hath to receive Rent for a House or Land, if he does his Duty, and to buy or sell thereupon, and Engage the same for Payment; which Engagement should be satisfied at the Payment of the Ship, or Tickets thereof, as the said Engagements doth Import: and if more than one appears for the same Sum, no Preference to be allowed, but as their Dates, or other Valuation in

Law

Law requires; then would the Seamen never suffer such wants, as both them and their Families have and doth suffer; their Wives and Children would be reasonably supported in their Absences, and they supplied at the Commencement of their Voyage, with Necessaries for their Preservation in the Service, by some of the Ship, or Port where they shall frequent, when People know that their Payment is of some Certainty, and not to be turned off Disgracefully to the Honesty of the Sailer, who is apt enough to refuse Payment, when his Wants are satisfied; And herein is the *Commissioner of the Pay* his Justice to be exercised, to prevent Evil Men from Cheating the People who Credit them, and bring a Scandal upon the Service, which makes the hard-heartedness towards them in their Wants.

Now I intimate, that the Debts contracted, during that Service, should have

134 **Naval Speculations** Or,
preference before those contracted before
the Commencement of that Service: The
Dutch use that Method, that a Sailer
need never want Credit for to supply his
Wants, viz. As the Sailer hath need,
the Captain gives him a Bill for so much
Money as his Needs, or of his Families
are; which Bill he sends home, where
there are enough that will take that Bill
at a small Abatement: The just perform-
ance of the same, gives such Credit to it,
that People will strive who should have it
at the least loss, they being paid without
Rebuke, or uncertain Payment; which
hath been the Fate of the Affairs in Eng-
land for many Years past, that a Ticket-
Buyer is an Odium: And notwithstanding
most of the Tickets have been bought and
sold, and past to Account by Quantities,
and done behind the Curtain; if a Man
should happen to be Discharged by a
Ticket, and needs Money for his Equip-
ment for another Voyage, he is in a Wood,
and

and knows not which way to bring that into Money, nor have any Friend that is willing to supply him, and send him about another Voyage, nor any Encouragement to do it, lest he does undergo the Guilt of a Ticket-buyer, which have been accounted as Cheats; so that if he does, he may lose his Money, or else he must find out the way behind the Curtain, as others do, where is most cruel loss, it going through so many Hands to the Mark. I say, for many Years past, this Practice hath been, That like *Woodstock-Bower*, or the *Inchanted-Castle*, except he had that Clew of Thread, viz. found the Mystery he should never attain the end, except the Person himself did attend; yet so he must find out the Knot and untie it, after he had worn out his Patience by Delays, and scornful Answers; but two to one, e're that he had worn out both his Patience and his Cloaths, and had found the way behind the Curtain, and

136 **Naval Speculations** Or,
taken some Money for it, but not enough
to pay his Creditors, nor relieve his Fa-
mily, but Packt away on another Voyage,
thin Cloathed, and Pennylefs; cursing
the Service, but whom he cannot tell: I
say, this hath been the Fate of the Sailer
for many Years together, yet fresh enough
to Memory; and still the King saves not
a Penny, but pays every Groat on't, and
perhaps Interest, to raise the said Money
for it: Nay, a Stranger would think in
himself, if he stood but by to hear the
Answers to Questions about the good or
bad payment, or where-ever it would be
paid, that the Parties Intrusted in the Af-
fair did give the greatest Disreputation
to it, whose duty it was, to have main-
tained and supported the King's Credit
with the *Maritime* People, which is of
more value than all the Merchants Credits
in *England*; for their Welfare, and the
whole Nations depends upon the Prospe-
rity of the *Navy*: For if we ever be brought
to

to truckle under the *French* at Sea, as I doubt, hath been fairly endeavoured for; farewell the Honour and Felicity of this Nation; but perhaps the Actors therein would have made themselves great thereby, according to their Desires: What a dreadful case is it that ever a Man should set his Hand to the utter ruine of his Nation, with the Religion, Laws, and Liberties thereof; and to settle that upon his Posterity, *viz.* a little Pelf; and knows not but that, as another *Pharoah*, who knew not *Joseph*, would make them all Bondmen. I fear there is remaining upon Posterity too many Honours and Estates of Persons, Gaining them by the daring to adventure the breach of the Laws of God and their Nation: For never did a Nation undergo any great Alteration, whether for the better, or for the worse, but Honours are created thereupon: Wherefore it would be as necessary, as upon the Entrance of any King upon the Throne,

138 **Naval Speculations:** Or,
Throne, to pass an Act of Indemnity ;
so also to pass an Act for the Confirming
of Honours, wherein every Honour by
Patent, should be Named : Or, if it be a
shorter way to be excepted, that have
raised it, or used his Ancestors Honour,
to the breach of the Laws established ; so
that none should pass, but what stood
the Scrutiny ; which would be a means to
deter Men from getting Honours so ill,
or preserve their Ancestors at so base a
rate : Knowing that if he suffer in one
King's Reign, his Posterity will surely be
righted in another, if ever the Nation
comes to it self again. However, the
true Object of a Just and Honest Man, is
to fear God, do what is Just, and to
wait upon him for the Issue of his Pati-
ence.

Having followed the pursuit hereof,
and digressed, I will return to my *Slop-
seller* ; and therefore say, That the Sailers
Market, instead of Restraint, should be
promo-

promoted, and People Invited to come on Board by their Civil Treatment; and to trust the Sailer with their Goods a-shoar, when they are Bargained for; by endeavouring all that are concerned therein, that they be duly paid for, with the least Trouble or Defalcation to them; and to use all the art to promote his Majesty's Credit in the Affair, not only with his *Maritime*, but with all his Subjects: For Credit and Honour are too near of Kin to be made Opposites, as for some time it hath been. Nay, it would answer to that great end of Profit to the Service, by taking off the growing charge, *viz.* if Money be not ready to pay the Ships, they might have Tickets, which would be bought up by Monied Men at little loss to the Sailer, and expedite the Affair; there being Money enough in Money'd-Mens Hands, who would be glad thereof, if they were Encouraged and Countenanced therein: The contrary Practice

I understand not. I say, let any Man sell his Ticket openly upon the *Exchange*, Street, or Shops, and countenanced through the Nation, and reckon'd a good piece of Service to lay out much Money in them; but that which added greatly to the Sailers Damages before, being now removed, *viz.* Buying of Tickets should not be declaimed, and yet sold behind the Curtain, by only those who have private Correspondence; but that it should be free, and declared a Commendable Service: I say, these Indirect Policies being removed, the Sailer would be in mighty Credit, and the whole Affair would go on with Life and Vigour; any thing to the contrary I do not understand.

I confess, I should add hereto the usual Objections, to back their Practices aforesaid; (and they are,) That the Sailer is Cheated; and again, he spends his Money in Drink, and is kept on Shoar from
the

the Service thereby: the which is all meer Sham, and only a mudding the Water to catch Fish. For to pretend to keep a Man's Money from him, to make him a good Husband, and that he be not Robbed on't; and in the mean time to leave a way open for him to be Cheated cleanly of a fifth, fourth, or third part on't, as he can escape their hands, or to fall under a *Post-pone*; the which the Cunning Dealers do foresee, and find Preference to avoid; but from ever *Post-poning* the Naval Debts of this Nation, *Good Lord Deliver the King and Parliament*: But instead, to strengthen the Publick Credit of the King with the Navy, by an Act, That whosoever should buy the Bills for Stores, Tickets, or Debenters for Wages, &c. should receive their Money without any Defalcation made therefrom, save what was Written fairly to their view upon it, before they bought it; and that in its due Course, with-

out any Preference, as they are entered in the Office for Assignments; and that the Publick Credit being past therein, that Officer that should make any Preferences in Assignment or Pay, should be Discarded, or such Penalties be inflicted as may be thought fit; and whosoever in any Office, that should speak slightly to disparage the Payment, and undervalue the Affair, should be treated in like Terms as a Merchant, or Shop-keeper, Lord, or Gentleman, would Treat his Servant that does, when any one comes to him for a Debt due from his Master, answer him Surlily, and Contemptibly, and Doubtfully, whether ever it would be paid: Such Servants, I confess, I have heard, have been in some Families; But what were they? Such as ranked not Honour and Credit together, and let all run at Hurles; and was Precipitating to an end of Honour, Credit, and Estate. I judge the Affair I am treating of, will aptly enough

enough fit the Comparifon; and therefore I will conclude with the *Slop-feller*, That if the Affair were carried as aforefaid, there will need no *Slop-feller*, but fuch as fhall ftrove to underfel each other, and truft to the *Purfer* for vending of them, or any one elfe, and produce their Bill for them to be ftopt out of their Pay, and paid at the Pay of the Men; or, that the *Pay-mafter* do answer the Draughts of the *Purfer*; as for Dead-mens Cloaths, Tobacco, Neceffaries, or Money for the fupply of themfelves and Families; and the *Purfer* to make good his Draughts, and account with the *Pay-mafter* for the whole Defalcations on the Ships Books; the which he ought to make good and ftand to; for why the *Slop-feller*, or the *Pay-mafter* fhould have the Ballances, no reason is to be given. More might be faid, but I fpare.

This

This was the Ancient Custom of the *Navy* before Corruption, Bribery, and private Interest came into the *Affair*; and Tricks, and Designs of Exposing the Honour and Safety of the Nation to the Power and Will of some, none of the best Meaning: Since which Designs began, things have run on with a swift Innundation, overflowing the Banks of Method, Discipline, and Government; so now hoping that the source is stopt, and that the breaches will be made up again, and the right Courses well cleansed and scoured, and so kept in the right Channel; to which purpose I will labour yet to bring more Materials, and conclude this Paragraph with Advice to the *Stop-seller*; That if he will sell as cheap as any others, and take the *Purser's* Bills, and Ballance his Account with him, and not crave *Imprest-Money* of the *Navy-Board*, to pay him in part before-hand; then I believe

believe he may sell a great deal of Cloaths, and be a Gainer enough, but not enough to understand the *Paymaster*, and Friends assisting; and to keep Coaches, and live like a Peer too; which I think he will not condescend unto; and therefore I take leave of him, and desire no more of his Company in this Affair.

VI. *Of the Clerical and Ministerial part of the Navy.*

I Have a few words to speak to this Affair, having observed in the *Navy* a general decay of Piety ; and that I conceive proceeds from the Root in the last Paragraph, for Subverting and Subjecting the *Navy*, as well in the Ecclesiastical as the Civil and Military part thereof, and for that purpose Men have been sent too often, that have given ill Examples of Lives and Conversation so light, and disposed to Mode and Gallantry, not sparing to go or enter into the Lists of Debauchery, with any of the Officers they shall happen to be accounted of ; are also void of good Morals, and over busie with other Mens matters, and do become the Ridicule of the Ship ; a Stain and Blot to the Function they bear, and
an

an Impairing to the *Protestant Religion*; for the *Maritime* People are not naturally over Zealous, yet they can often produce better Temperance, Chastity, Modesty, Honesty, Courage, &c. than appears in some of these Sparks which are taken from the Altars of the Universities: For to see Debauchery, Unchaste Speeches, and Deeds with Immodesty, Dishonesty, fearful Pusillanimity, Covetousness, and busie with other Mens matters, prevalent in a Minister's Carriage, certainly his Preaching and Praying, the better it be performed, the worse it fares with his Embassy for belief. As for Example:

If a Prince sends an Embassy to his Neighbour Prince, for the settling a good Correspondence, of Balance in Trade, or Assistance in Needs, &c. which Ambassador, to cause the Prince he comes to believe, that what he says, and conditions with him for, will certainly be performed; and therefore extols, and sets forth

148 **Naval Speculations:** Or,
his Master's Justice, his great Strength,
his Kindness for him, *viz.* his Ability,
Justice, Truth, and Willingness to serve
him, in very laudable Terms; and by a
Person, (*viz.* the Ambassador,) who must
be a Man of good Aspect, and of good En-
dowments, as may be had in one Man;
nay, and his Retinue also; that they may
be a Grace and Honour to their Master,
Nation, and the Business they come a-
bout; but if not, the effect will be clean
contrary: And so of the Sea-Chaplains,
who if they are of bad Lives, &c. the
better their preaching and Praying is per-
formed, the farther they Preach the Peo-
ple out of conceit with their Religion;
but if a Sot and Dunce, doing his Office
like himself, and living ill, they are the
less offended at it, and conjecture that
the reason the Affair being so ill presented
and set forth to them, is not the fault of
the Message, or the goodness of the Reli-
gion, but its Fate to fall into the hands of

a Slovenly, Sottish, and a Dunce of a Priest; but if an Ingenious Man, though Debauch'd, Vitious, and a Coward, comes to them, it makes them to question their Religion they profess; and comparing the strict Lives of the *Roman Catholics* abroad, the Macerating Fastings, and in fine, their *Pompous Shows* fairly set forth, of a True and Sincere Faith, and a good Church-Discipline, and compare it with Ours, would be ready prepared, and apt, when the Iron came to be hot, (as it was heating apace) to declare, That their Religion had been all along in the wrong, and that now they would, if demanded, imbrace the right; they thinking, by their bare Speculations to have judg'd aright. Wherefore there ought to be great care taken, that whosoever is sent on these Missions, should be Man of Excellent Lives and Deportments.

Now if it should be said, none would go then in the Fourth Rates, because of small Companies of Men for their Profits; and few good Men could be gotten to adventure in the other, but such as by their Insufficiency, or Unfitness, have missed their Preferments on Shoar. To this I Answer, that either the Visitor of the College, or Head of the University, have not power or will to detach able Missionaries for the Sea, and to gratifie their Labours with Preferment at their Returns, or there is a Miscarriage in the doing it; for it is better none were sent, than such as I described; and let the Groats go towards the maintainance of the Sick and Wounded Seamen, from whom it is stopt, as it is now ordered in case of no Chaplain, of which more hereafter.

But in case of sending Chaplains, there should be Dean Rurals appointed. *viz.* to Correspond with the Suffragan, or he
that

that chuses out these Missionaries, and sends them to let them know of the *Misdemeanors* of every one; the said *Dean* to be on Board of every *Flag*, or *Commander* of every *Squadron*, every Ship's *Boats-Commander*, and Officers frequenting there, he may enquire if any *Misdemeanors* be; that perhaps a *Reproof*, or *Admonition* in the Spirit of *Love* may do; or else give account to the *Suffragan*, who should send for him away quietly, and send another in his *room*; and not let him abide there Preaching backwards, till either the Captain does disgracefully turn him aside, or bring him to a *Council of War*, and so discard him.

Now I being come to the Paragraph, of the *Government of the Ships at Sea*, this relating to the same, I thought it worthy to have a distinct *Discourse* preludeing to the *others*; and having before told you of an evil *Root*, that bears evil
Fruit

152 **Nabal Speculations:** Or,
Fruit in the *Navy*; also thence sprang
this Branch for the *Commander* to put
what *Chaplain* he pleased into the Ship;
so that if the *Chaplain* pleased not him,
he was not to be admitted, or continu-
ed: And therefore, as I was saying be-
fore, That they had need to have *good*
Courage to oppose the not to be pleased
Commander, without he submits either
to Cajole him in his Irreligious, Debau-
ched, and Atheistical Expressions; and
all others of the same Temper, who must
all be his Imitators; or else he must sub-
mit to be turn'd off, and seek for ano-
ther. But this was not heretofore so, for
whom the Suffragan did send was to be
the Man: Indeed if a Captain desired any
one that he knew, and the Suffragan had
not ought against him, he was gratified
with him; but no Chaplain should be ei-
ther rejected by the Captain on his own
Knowledge, or from the Splenetick Re-
presentation of another, without being
cal-

led to a *Council of War*, if he had committed any Crime that came within the Articles of War, or before the *Admiral, or Commander in Chief*, for less Offences: Where the *Dean-Rural* is, who should exert his Care over him, to defend his Innocent and Harmless Behaviour? and not suffer him to fall under his *Commander's* Displeasure, and be disgraced thereby, if Innocence and Inoffence be found in him; and that he be not subjected to the sole Will of the *Commander*, and therefore forced to submit to base Demaenor, both to the *disbounour* of himself, and him that sent him: For the Basis of the Design was so laid, whereof I spoke before, That making the Captain Absolute and Despotical, they let him break asunder all Laws, Privileges, Methods, or Prescriptions at pleasure, and let all Superiour Officers act consonant thereunto. So that in making sure of them, *viz.* the Captains, that they would come over

at

154 **Nabal Speculations:** Or,
at a Whistle, their great design would
take effect: But no Humane Policies were
ever laid so sure, but that there were
Ifs, Ands, and Doubts in it; and never
was a Town or Fort made by the Art of
Man so strong, but under God's permis-
sion, by the Art of Man was found out
a place, or means to make it Pregnable;
so have these Designers (God be praised)
been disappointed, before they could fi-
nish their Work upon this Basis, and like
Confused Babel's work, made an abrupt
stop, and so stand still: I have not read
that any means was used to destroy their
Foundation, begun at *Babel*; that none
other like attempt might be made upon
the same Basis; but as the Scripture says,
*They were all dispersed, some one way and
some another, and divided*; that therefore
there may be thought no need to make any
Provision against a second attempt in that
kind, and on that Basis; as was at the
turning our First Parents out of *Paradise*,
and

and setting Flaming Swords to defend it from any more entrance; but in this case it is not as it was with the *Babel Builders*; but the Basis stands in a great part, and the Builders also; but the *Motions* are slow, yet the *Machin* being entire, and so only watches for the moving of the Waters to turn the Wheels which way soever a Few will direct it: This being a *Preladim*.

VII. *Of the Government of Ships at Sea.*

FIRST the Captains and Lieutenants are to be considered: The Lieutenant being the Image of the Captain, and the Executor of his Command; I conclude them under the Captain's Circumstance, he being the Head and Principal of the Ship, and may be fitly compared to an Emblem of *Monarchy*; which, with *Moderate Bounds* and *Constitutions*, is the best of *Governments* ever yet found out in the *World*; and therefore most to be desired and maintained. The Captain, I say, is the *Ruler* and *Governour* of the Ship and Men, in all Matters, both Military and Civil; nay, and Ecclesiastical too; he orders and disposes of the Ship, and its *Military Provisions* and *Stores*, and prepares her, and fits her for *Military*
Execu-

Execution, either for Defence, or Offence, as he sees *occasion*; and for the doing it, he hath of all sorts, of both *Commissioned* and *Warranted* Officers, Temporary and Standing Officers, appointed from the *Admiralty*, and *Navy-Board*, &c. to act in their several Stations and Trusts; and they all having, or ought to have, as well as himself, Ample Instructions, to act in their particular Places and Trusts; the which if they *follow*, they ought to be protected in Safety, as well by him, from any Injuries offered them, or their Charges by any others, as also encouraged in their Duties; so also by the *Admiralty* and *Navy-boards*, from any Injuries offered them by him, or suffered by his Connivance.

Now as to *Instructions*, I having said something thereof elsewhere before in general, I shall here speak more particularly; and that is, That although the *Forms* and *Prescriptions* for the *Captains Command*

158 **Naval Speculations:** Or,
mand hath been so enlarged and altered
of late, in every Circumstance relating to
the Standing Officers, unto whom are
committed all the *Stores* of the Ship, that
there is scarce any sign of the former Pra-
ctice remaining, the Particulars being too
many for me here to speak to: Yet I say,
the standing Officers their *Instructions* are
the same which have been near these
Thirty Years standing, to my knowledge,
and not one Tittle of them is of use, or
practice, or have been expected from them
some Years past, saving the passing their
Accounts, and making their Returns;
the which *Instructions*, if they should stand
to, and abide by, they would be ruined:
Neither have the Captains, and Lieute-
nants, and the Warrant Officers *Instructi-
ons*, any *Concordance* or *Coherence* toge-
ther; but the Practice hath been to sub-
mit to the *Commander's* Pleasure, and if
he be not Angry all is well; the which is
a very hard matter to please, except they
will

will be content to go to Sea for *nought*, and truckle under his Creatures: I say, this is the case in general, now grown to that height of Pride and *Imperial Command*, that an Officer that cannot screw himself into his Favour, were as good be a Slave in *Algiers*, for he must undergo all Hardships and Indignities that all wicked-minded Men can put upon, or devise against him; and, as I may say, suffer himself to be Piss upon by every *Inferior*, that the Captain will either *favour* or *connive* at; this is so true and *common* to the knowledge of all that know the *Navy*, that it may pass without farther *proof*: So that if any one should not be tempered for this usage, but be so hardy as to vindicate his Right, he is certainly ruin'd, and turned to seek his Bread elsewhere, perhaps in his *Latter Days*; and must not expect to be heard in his own Defence.

160 **Naval Speculations: Or,**

I confess, there is no *General*, for so I speak, but does admit of *particular Exceptions*; that is, there are some *Modest Men* in their Commands, but *too* too few, and they not fully arrived to the design, which is yet more, *viz.* to have the Office of the *Purser* annexed to the *Captain*, then were they as Absolute and Despotical as the King of *France* is, and of late hath proved to be, over his Subjects; and he no doubt did concur in the design of Contracting the *Navy of England* under the Despotical Power of a Few, for the purpose, rather than many: To which, I say, and no other, tended these *discordant* and *incohering Circumstances*, which caused Jarrings, Disheartnings, and thence the Murmurings and Complainings in our Ships, and the *Navy* abundantly weakened. And as to the Safety and Welfare of the *Navy*, for the *Viſtualling* to be deposited into the hands of the *Captain*, What may be the Effects thereof?

thereof, I cannot so well speak to, because it is not yet agreed how to order it: Some project, after the *Dutch* Example; Others, for the *King* to Victual, and the *Captain* to act by an Instrument under him; And a third, a mixt way. As to the *Dutch* way, the *Captains* agree with their *Admiralties*, at a certain price, for so many Mens Victuals, for such a Ship under their Commands, and the Particulars thereof are specified; and a *Scrivan* or *Muster-Master* of every Ship is sent, beside a *General Muster-Master* in every *Fleet*, to keep Checque, and Muster all the Feitives, noting all the Dead, and Runaways; and by his Book the *Captain* is paid for Victuals, and the Bills are paid which he draws home, viz. for Wages to Men: He pays, when abroad, according to Instructions; of all which, the *Scrivan* keeps due account with him. Now the Victualling of the *Dutch*, is chiefly *Groat* or *Oatmeal*, *Grey-pease*, *Stockfish*, *Butter*, and *Cheese*, &c. and a little *Flesh* once a Week:

M

Now

162 **Naval Speculations:** Or,
Now they have not Flesh in their Country, to do as we do ; therefore, if the *King* will alter the Quantity and Specie of his Victualling, he may ; but it will not agree to the Temper of his Subjects, but cause a great murmuring ; *First*, By his Sea-men : And *Secondly*, By the Farmers, Gentry, and Nobility of the Nation, that the Product of their Lands be not bought off and expended, with the Money they are taxed to maintain the War with ; and urge, That the Strength of the *Navy* would be impaired and weakened thereby, and be the cause of an Universal Disquiet. And next, the *King* must put in *Captains* stockt with Moneys, or Security for the performance of their Duty, else the Ships would never be in readiness to Sail, for want of Provisions to act together ; the Money else would be spent that should buy them, and few would trust them, and the Men would be abused with wants, and cannot,

not, nay, dare not complain. It may be said, Why with us, more than the *Dutch*? I Answer, The *Dutch* are a different People by Nature, and different in their Government, which is partly *Democrasie*, and partly *Aristocrasie*; they are severe Justiciaries, and strict Performers of Contracts to the Publick; in which, from one degree of Office to another, they are all sharply lookt to, and therein are not pestered with so many Methods, pretending to avoid wrong, whereas 'tis only a Mist cast before our Eyes, and proves a burden to the Publick, and has contrary effects to the intention, and makes the Proverb true, *That the more Cooks, the worse Broth*: For the *Dutch*, if any should be caught Cheating or Abusing the Publick, he must run his Country, or never hope to escape great Punishment, with Confiscation of all he has; for such is the Hatred of them all, to those that hurt the Publick, for every one

reckons himself a Sharer in the Publick Wrongs, that if his Wrong hath taken wind, and it be considerable, two to one but before he can withdraw, the *Mobile* will cut him 'off, and none dares to countenance his Escape, for fear of the *Mobile*: Remember the De Wits; for if such profuse exhausting of Treasure, and Misapplication from the true Intentions, and Plots against the Publick, had been committed there, as have been here, they would not have Escaped; but if the *Publick Justiciaries* had not done Justice, the *Mobile* would have Carved it out themselves: So I say, their Constitution is far different from ours, for Interest runs not so high there: Now would they who labour for this Alteration in the *Navy*, also bring the Nation under such a Government as they are, then they may expect it should answer the end as theirs does: But it is not better than ours, nor half so well, if our Constitutions had been

been preserved, and Private Interest cast out, and Commands carried so Moderate and Just as theirs; but it is plain and obvious to me, that this Practice and Endeavour is only the Basis of the Work, or Design on foot, which I e're while compared unto *Babel*; and a Superstructure to be thereon built, to have the *Navy* in a few hands, who would be Absolute and Despotical therein: And if they do design to have the *Navy* after the *Dutch* Government, if they would have it thrive in like manner as they do, they must intend to alter the Government of the Nation into a *Commonwealth*, as theirs is, or else it will never frame as theirs, for the Reasons I have before mentioned; but I think it is past their skill yet. I could add many more Reasons, but it is needless; and therefore I would have them put out of hopes of ever Ingrossing or Enslaving the *Navy of England* under a Despotical power, and consequently of turning the

166 **Naval Speculations:** Or,
Government of the Nation upon Hinges
which have but few Joynts; the which
is very dangerous in a *Monarchy*, but not
so in a *Commonwealth*, who by their long-
continued and beloved Constitutions, ha-
ving been accustomed by Allarms of being
Robbed of their Liberties, will, on any
Allarm, as a Flight of *Sterlings*, cast
themselves into an orderly Flock, when
they espy a *Hawk* at hand; but in a *Mo-
narchy*, it is altogether unsafe to put their
strength at the Devotion of a few hands:
Moreover, it is against all *Maxims* in Poli-
cy, to make any Alterations in a long-
settled and approved Method of Manage-
ment in a material part of the Govern-
ment, Strength, and Wealth of a Na-
tion.

This Project was on foot in King
Charles the Second's Time; who Answered,
And Captain, When your Men suffer,
unto whom should Men complain? To your
self, for Justice? He said, *He would be*
Just:

Just. The King said, *He had a good Opinion of his Captains*, but laughed at the Project ; and so it died for that time. And as for those who would have them Victualled by the King, and the Captain account with him for it, instead of the Purser, they are thus Answered, *That their Projection is yet more open for Despotical Power, for then it will be brought to a far heavier burthen for the Nation, by the Commissioners Providing, and the Captains Commanding, who will have the King's Purse open at their pleasures, and every one must bow to them for a piece of Bread ; and what Rule an Admiralty will have over them, to keep them to Methods and Prescriptions, or a Navy-Board, is pretty well seen by a handful out of a full Sack aforesaid ; and therefore those that are for this way, are more beside the Mark ; for here they have a means to make it a greater uncertainty of Charges, and have a greater influence on the Affair, and*

168 **Naval Speculations:** Or,
create Necessities at their Pleasure, and
will account at their Leisure. And as for
those that are for a mixt way, when they
have formed and declared their Method,
I may be able to give them a full Answer,
and in the mean time I will only pursue
my Purpose, to unravel the Proceedings
of late, in the Confused Methods left
standing of the *Babel-Builders*; and
that is,

First, There is created a *Captains Clerk*,
for the Captains Mustering, Ticketting,
and ordering as well of the *Purser's Books*,
as of all the Expences of the other Offi-
cers, who has a *Midskipman's Pay* for his
Service, and double *Midskipmens Pay*
more added, to enable the Captain to gra-
tifie his Creatures that deserved his Fa-
vours; and for some time he had Orders
for double Pay, I hope this was not for
nothing; but that part of the Building
soon fell down: I say, here is new
Charges for him to place it upon his
Coc-

Coeswain, *Steward*, *Servants*, or whom he thinks good to deserve it : The afore-
said *Clerk*, I say, being one chosen by him, on hopes for him to prefer him to some Office, as he will deserve by promoting his Interest, by the sole management of the Purser's Books. and the Officers Accounts ; and after his Master's turns are served therein, then his own must be next, and all the Officers Instructions given them, must be laid aside, and serve no longer than those ends they like of ; and the Officers must Trump up to this, or undergo what I have said before ; and if this be not *Babel-Building*, aspiring to reach their Heaven, Wealth, and Despotical Power, the great Object of their Industry, and this to be raised out of Confusion, I know not what to term it unto. But I doubt not but the Quick-sighted will take timely warning to prevent the design of Enthralling the Power and Wealth of the Nation, and settle it again in good Order,
Method,

170 **Nabal Speculations:** Or,
Method, and Government. As to Com-
mand, the needfulness and necessariness
thereof is, out of all doubt, acknowledg-
ed by all that would live under a Govern-
ment in any Nation, City, Ship, or Com-
munity; but the manner of this Com-
mand, is that which makes all Govern-
ments differ, of which I will say in the
Originals thereof, none differs which is
thus; that whatsoever a Superior Officer
does or commands to be done at his own
will or choice, *viz.* that he may do it,
or leave it undone, which Act or Order,
if it exceeds not the bounds of Justice,
Lenity, Kindness, and such favourable
Command as a Man might expect from his
Father, Relation, or Friend, it is well,
and according to the first Institution of
Government, and requires Allacrity in
Obedience; but if it be Rigid, Austere,
Morose, nay, Inhumane, and such a Com-
mand as he may expect from his Captor,
or

or Enemy, then also he may obey: But how? As *Tyranny* is obeyed; wishing ill success even to that, which he is out of necessity laying his hand to: For Mankind how weak soever they may be thought to be in the Wiles of Policy; yet this knowledge they have by Instinct of Nature, if they are not told it by others; That from him that commands him he may expect as his due, Justice, and Protection from all Wrongs from others, and to receive none from himself, nor any hardship, but what the Service must of necessity force his Officer to lay upon him, without doing any Man wrong to favour him; for if he does at any time do wrong to another to favour him, he by secret Instinct disallows the Justice, and in his heart pronounces his Officer unjust, and expects the like Justice towards him when the wind of his Favour changes; so that Superior Officers, according to the Steps and Degrees of distance they were from
the

172 **Nabal Speculations**: Or,
the Commanded, ever were, and indeed
ought to be as the *Patriarchs* of old
were; their Sons, Grandsons, &c. di-
vers Generations had their degrees of
Command over the whole Lineage, and
all by due course of Seniority, in the Or-
der of Government Instituted by God
Almighty; so that whenever they were
(by the unfitness of the Senior to go-
vern, or conduct) forced to alter, they
always chose one of the same Lineage,
nearest of Kin, to govern and conduct
the Tribe; this being God's Institution to
his Peculiar People for an Example to the
rest of the World; but the other Govern-
ments then in the World, as they were
practised, might be supposed to be De-
spotical and Tyrannical: As *Nimrod* the
mighty *Hunter*, who began the First Em-
pire in the *East*, and was worshipped as
a God, and the *Grecian* Empire after;
but after that the Justice of the *Western*
Empire, or *Roman*, in their Conquests,
may

may not in this *Island* easily be forgotten, (although *Pagans* ;) but I leave it to History, and pursue my purpose, and follow the *Patriarchs* and *Fathers* of *Israel*, our Pattern; for so were all stiled that sate in Judgment, or led the People; and they ever Treated all that came before them, with the Appellations of my Sons and Daughters. Likewise also did all Generals and Commanders treat all that came before them, for Justice to be done them; or to have Justice done on them, Mildly, Friendly, and with great Clemency; and was sorry for the *Offender*, even as a *Father* is sorry for his *own Son*, when he is forced to correct him: But other sorts of Government run parallel in the World, as those mentioned, and also thereof are now extant, who may run their Bounds which God hath allotted them, for the Scourge of Mankind to serve his Eternal Purposes: These also, I say, are obeyed; as I said, through the Law of
Ne-

174 **Nabal Speculations** : Or, .
Necessity, who carry their Commands over all, whom by Policy and Strength they have gotten under them, by Austerity and Morosity ; it being their Pollicy of Command to imitate Greatness in Apparel, Habiliments, Attendants, and Retinue, using overmuch Haughtiness, and sleighting Reservedness, accompanied with Opprobrious and Villifying Terms to their Inferiors, even before the Faces of all Spectators ; and spurn even themselves, and their Caps cast at their Feet in undue Honour and Respect paid them ; all which is sprung from a Weed gathered lately in *France*, and planted in *England*, whose Soil hath nourished it, that it is suddenly grown to Magnitude insupportable ; and it is no other than a Relick of the Government, where Tyranny, Arbitrary, and Despotical Power is used and maintained, there being no other means for a Tyrant to have Obedience paid him by : The large, and once Opulent,

pulent, and Populous Dominions under the *Grand Seignior* reduced to Poverty, and Paucity of People; may be a sufficient Example thereof: And it is not to be doubted, but that God's appointed time for the Alteration of that Government, draweth nigh; it being a certain truth, That all Sublunary things have their Increase and Decrease, and never stand in a state of steddiness: So all *Politick Bodies*, as Governments of Kingdoms, Cities, &c. have for their Strength and Glory, Increase, State, and Decrease; but in its State it cannot stand long: For, as Doctor *Heylen* very well observes, That the Elective Kingdom of *Poland*, and the Seigniory of *Venice*, neither of them of any great strength comparable to that Empire; yet they have held it at a stop near these Hundred Years, and, for five or six Years last past, may be noted, hath been under a great Declension; so may the Kingdom of *France*, in
all

176 **Nabal Speculations:** Or,
all probability, by another Observator,
undergo an Alteration; having been at
the top of its Power, signified by exert-
ing its power by Burning, Destroying,
and Devastation of Countries; for that
Kingdom cannot hope to enjoy a long
continuance, that uses such ways for their
Encreasing and Maintaining; they do
serve only for the Divine Vengeance of
the Almighty's Decrees; for the Scourge
of Mankind, to bring to pass his Eternal
Purposes: So I allude, That no Politie
of Government, that is not grounded,
and settled upon the Basis and Foundations
of the first Institutions of Government,
can consist with the Welfare, and lasting
Prosperity thereof; for that Government
which is at the Will of the Governour,
must either imply, That he that governs
is something more than a Man; nay, must
be endued with all the Celestial Graces,
and so permanent and steddy therein, e-
ven to the Imitation of the Deity; or
else

else it will fall under all the Humane Errors, that Mankind is subject unto, and what the product of them may be, I need not declare : Wherefore, for the assistance of Mankind, for their Propagation and Government, in all well-settled Governments, were added to the Governour, just and wholesome Laws devised and enacted by the Sages, Elders, and Heads of the People, for them to be governed by ; in which the People saw their Instructions for their Duties at large, inculcated to them ; as also the Rocks and Precipices they were to shun, from being made Shipwracks of by the State ; so that all the Inferiour Officers in that State or Pollicy, hath in the same their particular Instructions for their Offices ; all which Instructions, or Constitutions ran ever from between the Governor, Superior, Inferior, and all degrees of Officers consistant to Unity and Concordance, all tending to one end and design, *viz.*

N

the

178 **Naval Speculations:** Or,
the Welfare of the Governor and Governed; and in the doing of which, they might stand and be justifiable before their Superiors, and shall be Freed, or Condemned by their Parity; of which this Nation hath no small reason for its practice to bless God; which leads me to a practice of the *Navy*, not much to be admired, which is this:

That all Warranted Officers upon any smaller Offences, have been Caned, Bilboed, Despitely intreated, and made vile and Contemptible to the Ships Company, and perhaps upon slight Occasions: And again, if the Crime hath been greater, and deserved to be brought to a *Council of War*, or *Court-Marskal*, there even his Accuser shall be one of his Judges; or at least he shall be Judged and Condemned by his Superiors; and perhaps of the same Class of his Accuser, wherein his Parities are wholly excluded; now how this agrees to the Municipal Laws of this
Nati-

Nation; to which they are all Subjects, and what Justice they may expect, may be guessed at: To say no more, but that I do not admire it; for the Peers of this Nation claim to be Judged by their Peers, and the Commons by their Parity, &c.

Now, as it is all my endeavour in this Discourse to invite into the Government of the Navy, all possible Just and Equitable Proceedings, administred with Mildness and Clemency towards Offenders for their Shame and Punishment; so is it no less my aim and desire to Inculcate that with Affection, and no less Justice, for the due Reward, and deserved Encouragements of all Experienced, Active, Vigilant, Honest, and Valiant Officers, Preferments be freely and indifferently granted; and to let the warm Beams of Favours, even like the Beams of the Sunshine indifferently upon all Heads, and not to have it confined to Private Recommendations on Private Interest. As,

180 **Rabal Speculations** Or,

First, For Punishment in Criminals, where Life is questioned, why it may not be consistant to the Municipal Laws of this Nation, that a Warrant Officer be Tryed by a Jury of Twelve Warrant Officers, and the Council or Court sitting, and superseding, as the Judges and Justices at the Assizes; I know no reason to the contrary.

Secondly, For Crimes of *Pettylarconies*, for Stores, Cowardice, Ill-behaviour in Battle, Disobedience to Command, or any Offence which may require either Corporal or Pecuniary Punishment to be inflicted, if it be brought to a *Court-Marshal*, Why they may not be Tryed by their Parity, I know not.

Thirdly, Where they deserve to be Degraded and Discarded, why they may not be Judged, and undergo their Parities Sentence as to Matter of Fact, and be sent either to the *Admiral* at Sea, or to the *Lord High Admiral* within the Narrow-Seas,

Seas, or Rivers, to be dealt with as they shall think fit? For then the Merit of the Cause will appear, *viz.* Matter of Fact, and not be turned out barely upon the Captains Word or Letter; which never yet was practised, till of late Years, and sprang from the Root I so often spoke of before: Now as I spoke before, that Ample and Concordant Instructions are most needful to be given to all Officers for the Performance of their respective Duties; so that I here intimate, That upon the proof of Fact, the breach of their Instructions would be a ready Condemnation, if considerable for their Dismission; as also their Performance a Justification for them, without which can be nothing expected, but Distraction, Confusion, and Arbitrary Proceedings: And then for their Encouragements by Preferments, Why may not their Capacities and Abilities be also taken notice of, when certified by Warranted Officers, that are

Or, reckoned ancient experienced Men of the same Employments, some nominated, and appointed for Probators, as well as all from the Captains and Commissioners; and let no Certificates be made or valued, that hath more than one Hand to it, who ought to certifie no more than he knows to be true of that Man; and let some body of Credit also certifie of their knowledge of his Sober Life, and a constant Adherer to the Government established, both in Church and State; the Certificates being all single, if it happens not to be true, it should reflect upon the Certifier to his damage, to certifie a Lye; and thereby indeavouring to introduce into the Affair (as lately) *Papists* and other Perfwasions, that the Management of the Affair of the *Navy* should not be Committed unto, and Pestered with, to avoid Divisions, Party-makings, Trickings, and Designings, as I have elsewhere spoken, instead of Unity and Concord to be desired

red, as there instanced: I say, Why these, or the like may not be done, I find no Reason.

Indeed some may say, that by Trying by Parities, and the like, by Certificates, there would run such a Propensity in them towards the favour of their own Employments, that it would not answer the end described.

To which I Answer: If the Officers were all chosen for good Qualifications, as I before intimated, no doubt but that there would be as Impartial Proceedings as could be expected; but if the Officers be made only from the Captains, &c. on their bare Recommendations, as of late; then there may be expected such Officers, as hath, or can, by the Art of Fawning, Flattery, Slavish and Obsequious Observances of the Captain or his Creatures; or for some service done, not very commendable in its self, yet bespeaks him to be in the Captains Favour: I say, from

184 **Naval Speculations** : Or,
such Officers cannot be expected much
Justice : But this Argument, that no Ju-
stice may be expected from them, you
may as well say so of all the Proceedings
of the *Courts of Justice* in the Nation:
You may by the same reason put by all
the Juries of the Kingdom, and pretend
their Partiality to their Equals; and Try
all Matters by the Judges and Justices
of the *Benches*, and by such as the King
shall Commissionate for that purpose,
and then may you have such a Govern-
ment at Land, as you desire at Sea ; and
only then you will be sensible thereof :
And this is a Fruit born on another Branch
of that Weed I have so often mentioned ;
the which, if it should be used so on the
Land, I say, it would be very Unflavor-
y Fruit to the Palates of the Nation.

But some Man will say, that there can-
not be a proper Comparison between the
Government at Sea, and the Land.

I Answer. It is very fit and proper; for they are the same People that govern the one and the other, *viz.* Commissioned and Deputed; and the same that obey at Sea, and at Land; and the same Law-makers for the Government of the one as the other; and Justice bears the same Face, and is the Attribute of God, and as much required at Sea, as at Land.

Having, I think, said enough to Convince any Moderate Man herein, I proceed to the Emoluments and Profits of the Officers, as a Recompence to each Man for his Labour, and Jeoparding his Liberty, Limbs, and Life it self, for the support of their Families; a great Object to them in their Absence, or Death, or for their Maintainance in Old Age, Sickness, and loss of Limbs; which is by certain Wages allotted them; Allowances of Perquisites in divers Cases and Accidents happening; as also by Prizes taken, and by Goods and Moneys acquired by
Ad-

186 **Naval Speculations:** Or,
Adventures ; and also their Privileges
for themselves, and Instruments under
them, that they be not abused, nor dis-
countenanced, nor their Cabins Store-
Rooms, and Easements taken from them,
and abridged of all Happiness, or Healthy
Living on Board, by being too strait-lac'd,
and confined ; all which are according to
antient Prescriptions, and known Customs
and Practices of the *Navy Royal* to be
their Dues. Now if the Government
thereof, is become *Arbitrary* ; and if any
one is abridged thereof, and his Profits,
&c. either taken from him, diverted to
others, or converted to the Commanders
Profit ; every one so served, must needs
be grieved, and disappointed of his hopes
for his present Maintainance ; and also
for his Old Age, &c. and so hath he ser-
ved for nought but Misery and Contempt :
Now if there be no Appeal for that Party
lying, with some reasonable safety, to
complain to the *Lord High Admiral*, or
to

to his Deputies, *viz.* the Commissioners of the Navy, for his Redress; I mean, that it might lie open and easie for him to have access to be heard, and that there he may expect Justice indifferently to be administered: I say, if there be not, a Man may easily conclude, that Government to be Despoticall and Unjust; I mean an Appeal that a Man may come off with Safety, being protected from the future Injuries he may receive from the Offender, by the anger or malice of him that hath done the wrong, by reason of this Appeal taken: For it is recommended by God unto Man, to defend the Weak and Oppressed, and to resist the Proud; meaning, That the strong Man be bound by a stronger than he, and made to restore the Wronged to his Right, and let him not dare to injure him again; but not as it is, to force a Prey out of a Lyon's Paw, and let him loose to the Party, whose Right it is to be protected, to be worried,

188 **Naval Speculations:** Or, worried by him to death afterwards; I mean, that Justice be plentifully administered on Board the Ships, that it might flow even out at the Scuppers; then will Mens Hearts be glad in the Service, and bear their Labours, Watchings, Pains, and Hazards, with Allacrity, and have cause to bless God, for the Promoters and Maintainers of these Blessings under God unto them; and from such Government, may be expected, Prosperity and Happiness to the Affair, and Atchievement of great Actions abroad, to the Glory, Honour, and Wealth of the Nation; and the *Navy* be in a Progressive motion, as I at first intimated.

Again, The Government of the Ships at Sea, was, That in Times of all considerable dangers approaching, *viz.* whether it were best to Engage, or which way to manage it; which way, or what course to steer; if it be best to cut a Mast; and in fine, in all great and important Matters,

ters, if the Commander did not call his Warrant Officers together for Council, and took their Sentiments in the majority, and put it in execution; but executed his own Will, and thereby Mischief ensued; it would have been very hard for him to have escaped deserved Shame and Punishment; for his Officers are, or ought to be material Limbs, or Parts of that Government; and in all Difficulties their Concurrence ought to be taken; but the practice of late, is clean otherwise: I say, his Officers being not awed by their dependance on him, would have witnessed freely the truth, and have laid the blame, or the burthen of the Miscarriage, upon the right shoulders: but no such thing can be practised, where Despotical Power is: It is meer Nonsense to pretend examining of Parties, hoping to come to the truth of the Matter of Fact, when the Witnesses dare not speak truth; and especially if they know that a well packt Lye,

Lye, or cunning evading of the truth, will better please the Court: Nay, if the Horse must of necessity be saddled, how easie may a Man wilfully put it upon the wrong Horse, when he knows it is not safe for him to put it on the right, for fear of being spoiled? I say, it is meer mockery, or but a shadow of due Proceedings, and is also of the Unfavorable Fruit, I elsewhere mentioned.

Again, if a Ship happens to meet with Disasters at Sea; and that not for want of Carelessness, and neglect of Duty, to the endangering of Ship and Lives; and when she comes home, there be no Commissioner, or Surveyor, of power to call all the Officers before him, and examine the truth; to find out how, and by what means it came to pass, and to know the true state of the thing, and what is most necessary to be done now, for the good, and beneficial managing of the same for the King and Service, and by knowing the

the truth of the Accident; they may be able to put a Preventer for the future like Accidents: But, I say, instead of this proceeding, if there be a Letter writ, only known to the Captain, and there be another Ship ordered for him, and the other laid by, and the King damaged Five Hundred or a Thousand Pounds, and the Service impeded thereby; Will any one think this a right Method? But as for Examining, I had almost forgotten what I said, even now, That it must be Nonsense to expect the truth to be known, where such Dependances are upon Arbitrary Power: And therefore I conclude, it must be also the baneful Fruit of the foresaid Weed. I could instance many more Particulars, which are the true, and genuine Fruits of the said Weed; but I suppose, by what hath been already said, will be sufficient proof of the unwholsomness of him, and therefore fit to be rooted up.

Secondly,

Secondly, I will descend to the particular standing Officers of this said Government, so called, for that they are Warranted by the *Admiralty*; for each Ship, during life, in case they commit no Misdemeanour worthy of their being turned out; and at the receipt of those Warrants they do, or ought to receive, also ample and plenary Instructions for the execution of their Offices, who are the *Purser, Boatswain, Gunner, and Carpenter*; unto whom are committed all the Stores of the said Ship, or Service; and for the securing, preserving, and laying the same up to be ready upon all minute Accidents for the said Service.

They by ancient Prescriptions and Customs have allotted them Apartments of the said Ship, proper for the same, *viz.* Cabins, Steward-Room, Store-Rooms, and Accommodations, and Avenues to the same, for themselves and their Instruments, to perform their respective Offices

Offices under them: Now if they be abridged thereof, *viz.* curtailed, lessened, or taken from them, at the Will of the Captain, it is not easie to judge, what Damages may ensue to the King and Service thereby: Unto which may be added, the Discomfiture by Losses the Officers may sustain; for they are accountable to the *King*, by way of Indentures signed for the same. As for Example.

First, The *Purser*, and no other Officer of the Ship, at his receipt of his Warrant, gives Bond to the King, with two sufficient Sureties, with a Penalty of Five Hundred Pounds, more or less, according to the Rate of the said Ship, which Bonds, in case of failure of his Duty, are certainly Estreated in the *Exchequer*, and Process are issued out, for the Seisures of Body and Estates of him, or his Sureties, of what Estate soever they were possessed of, during the time of their being

194 **Naval Speculations:** Or,
Accomptants to the King: Now if the
Instructions they receive for their Duties,
be not sufficient to bear them harmless in
the performance thereof; and that they
be not consonant to the Captains, nay,
nothing more contrary, or less observed
in proceeding; How possibly can this
Man be in any degree of safety, or Friends
giving Pledge for him, let him be never
so *good* an Officer? (I say none.)

But it is Answered, The Captain is an-
swerable at the Determination of the
Voyage, by the stoppage of his Pay;
the which he is not to receive until he pas-
ses his Accounts, required by his Instru-
ctions, by giving in Journals of his Voy-
age, and Muster, and Checque-Books,
and a Certificate from each standing Of-
ficer, that he hath not commanded any
thing, during the Voyage, irregular;
for which he hath a Clerk allowed him to
perform for him; which Checque-Book
the *Purser* sees not till a long time after,
and

and may be ruined thereby ; and there is also added unto him, double Allowance of *Midshipmen's* Pays to each Rate, for him to dispose of, as I ere-whiles mentioned : All this being a late Invention, to bear the resemblance of a safe Method, for the *King*, and Sub-Officers ; yet it proves but as a *Shooing-Horn* to draw on more Charges to the *King* and Service, and as *Cobwebs*, in the behalf of the Officers, to bind a strong Man with : For it is an evident encrease of the *King's* Charges, and the maintaining more *Cooks*, which, according to the old Proverb, *Is a marring the Pottage*. And,

Secondly, For the binding him, it is on the quite contrary ; for it gives him the greater Latitude of Arbitrary Power and Command, to awe the Officer to Sign the said Certificate, and to comply to his, and his Creatures Pleasures, concerning the Stores, Books, and Proceedings of the Ships Accounts. I forbear Particu-

196 **Naval Speculations:** Or,
lars to instance more, there being room
enough, by what hath been said, to
guess: For before this Invention, by the
antient practice of the *Navy*, he was li-
able, by the stoppage of his Pay, to an-
swer the Complaints of his Officers, for
his Irregular Commands; but this put
him into more Despotical Power, to di-
pose of the Stores; and by a Dash of his
Clerk's Pen, to ruine both the Officer's
Voyage and Reputation, in case he Signs
not such a Certificate as required: So that
this also seems to me, to be a Fruit of the
Weed aforesaid.

As for the *Purser's* Instructions former-
ly, and now, they are the same *verba-*
tim; but for the Observation of them,
there remains nothing thereof, saving to
pass his Accounts, the which he is forced
to, by his triple Bond aforesaid; the
which, if it were also omitted, the Laws,
for all that are Accomptants to the *King*,
to adjust, were sufficient Tyes for him:

So

So that the whole matter of his Instructions, as they are put in practice of late, since this new Invention, I will (not to descend to Particulars) bind them up together as useless; except it be to expose them to the Ridicule of the Captains and Lieutenants; and to be used when they have occasion to go into the Gallery.

Now, as I said, the *Purser* Indents for the *Provisions*, and issues the same by his Instruments; with which *Provisions*, he receives; or ought to do, an Allowance of Money, *viz.* Fourteen Pence per Month, for every Person in the Ship, to find Candle, Wood, Canns, Platters, Spoons, Lanthorns, &c. called Necessaries for the Ship; but the little or much Necessaries, *viz.* profuse Expences thereof, is at the Pleasure of the Captains and Lieutenants to command; and how that is of late managed, is too tedious for my intended Discourse: Also, what kind of respect the *Provisions* meet with in hoisting into

the Ship, and Stowage of them, and of the Remains to be hoisted out, to be sent a Shoar to be preserved ; and *Cask-wood*, and what relates to his Stores, it going under the notion of the *Purser's*, he being bound to answer for it as before said. I could say much therein, but I leave that to every Man to relate his own case, according as he finds his usage : But this I will say in general, That since the Project of the Captains being *Pursers*, have been promoted, both the *Pursers*, and their Instruments, have gone under great Scandal and Obloquy ; insomuch, that the *Purser* can get no Instruments, but at a dear and uncertain rate, to act under him, by reason of Ridicule and evil Treatment ; and I do moderately calculate it, That if the Captain had the Victualling, he would save of what is now profusely spent, and wasted maliciously with Sallaries, which the *Purser* pays, and Moneys he is constrained to spend, to soften Mens Morosities

ties towards his Affairs, that he might come to the less damages, sufficient recompence for a very good Officer for his Voyage: By means whereof, as it is now carried in the Offices at home, and Command abroad, that when he has past his Accounts, he will have nothing left to support his Family, or maintain him in his Old Age: I say, if he be an Honest and Upright Man in his Office, and do not Fawn, Flatter, and Trick it, and truckle to the Creatures he has to deal with, the which is now become his Fate; and therefore, I wish him to furnish himself with a well-tempered Disposition, *To be as Wise as a Serpent, and as Harmless as a Dove*; patient of Wrongs, a good Humour-monger; and carry a good *Menstruum* in his Pocket, that will dissolve Morose, Obdurate, and Flinty Tempers; or else better Fortune, than to be cast into so ill a reputed, and disrespected an Office: All which Fate is befallen him, and

200 **Naval Speculations:** Or,
is an effect of that ill Weed I spake of
come from *France*, and hath infected the
Naval Affairs of *England* with a Scurvey
Disease, and, if not in time cured, it may
taint the Vital Spirits thereof; and ren-
der it to be decrepid, and of *slow mo-*
tion.

As to the *Boatswain*, he is an Officer
that Indents for all the *Sails, Cables,*
Cordage, and *Stores* of the Ship, and by
the Captain's Hand to the Expence, pas-
ses his Account with the *Clerk of the Sur-*
vey: As doth also the *Carpenter* for the
Masts, Yards, Planks, Boards, Spikes,
Nails, and many Particulars: The *Gun-*
ner with the *Officers of the Ordnance* for
the Guns, all sorts of Shot, Powder, and
many particular *Stores of Artillery.* Now
heretofore, nay, yet it is in the *Purser's*
Instructions, although I left them, even
now, in the *Gallery,* for the *Captains*
and *Lieutenants* uses: I say, the *Purser*
was required, and did enter from time to
time,

time, the Weekly Expences of both *Boat-swain*, *Gunner*, and *Carpenter's* Accounts into a Ledger; and drew a Monthly, or oftner Account for the Captain, and took the Captain, and Master's Hands, to whom the Expence was known, and Signed it himself, and gave it them to pass their Accounts by; but, I say, since the new Project aforesaid, it is useles, and the *Captain's Clerk* is instead of a Servant of the Captains; and by what hath been said before, may be easily guessed, what safety in the Affair to the *King*, may be expected, and what dependance the Officers have, and on whom it is obvious.

Again, If the Ship happens to fall into great Action, as it often does, and that good Exploits are done, either for the Preservation of the Men and Ship, or in damaging the Enemy, the Practice therein hath been used of late, to take the full Relation of the said Action, from the
Cap-

Captains and Lieutenants Mouths, or Writings; and the other Officers are Mutes in that case; how easily then may the matter be represented, and the truth thereof either lie hid, and Honour and Rewards be placed unduly, and undeservedly, by Interest, or Influence of the Representers made, and instead of Rebuke for Misbehaviour, Honour and Reward, to the discouragement of the well-deserving; and the stifling of the truth of the Fact, from the knowledge of the *Admiral, Commander in Chief, Lord High Admiral, and Commissioners at home*: For it cannot be thought, that the Captains and Lieutenants have all the Eyes in the Ship that see, or all the Hands that act therein; but that other good Officers may be in the Ship, that may see that which they do not, and do that which they do not; for they have like opportunity with them, by their Speculations, Motions, and Conversings in their respective

spective Places and Duties; they having Eyes to see, and Hands to act with, more than two or three; and Converse through the whole Ship by themselves, their Mates, and Instruments.

Now upon any such extraordinary Occasions or Accidents, if there were a Commissioner of the *Navy*, in the Ports and Roads, or one deputed from the *Admiral* at Sea, (with the assistance of his Secretary,) who did go on Board the said Ship, and summon before him all the Officers of the said Ship, and take their Examinations; and if need be, their Depositions, to the Matters in question; and freedom for any one to come in and declare their knowledge of the Action; then may the truth be known, and a right Information be transmitted to the Superior Power, whether abroad or at home: For the Purposes before mentioned, which looks like direct proceeding, if it be solemnly done, but the contrary, is a Fruit of the former Weed.

Again,

Again, The Ships heretofore had not so great Accommodations for *Commanders*, as of late; for every Builder hath striven to exceed each other, in making *Accommodations* for the *Captains*; for which, it costeth the King no small Charges: Nay, I say, great Charges; yet that does not give content but rarely; for he is reckoned a Man of but small Invention, that cannot continue to make great alteration in the *Steeridge, Round-house, Cabins, Store-Rooms, &c.* and a great deal of Work for *Carpenters, Joyners, Painters, &c.* And as the Currant has run, scarce desir'd it of the *Commissioner*; but if he does, to be sure its never denied him; and these Alterations are sure to be the enlargement of their own *Accommodation*, and the *Abridgment* of others: Notwithstanding all the *Accommodations* he hath contrived by the *Builders*, ten to one, but he is to enlarge his *Store-Room*, and confines the *Steward-Room* into so small

small a *Room*, that it is a miserable place to handle the Ships *Provisions* in, from which proceeds no small damage; many times to the *King* in his *Provisions*, and also the *Purser*; and the *Cock-pit*, a Hellish Pit, to transact the most, and constant business of the Ship; and by the thronging it with Cabins for Creatures, Boys, &c. that they are meerly choaked up: And to add to it, the *Steeridges* are generally taken away from the Officers, that they shall not Eat, nor Walk, nor Refresh themselves; the way going out of the *Steeridge* to the *Gun-Room* being totally shut up, and in divers, a *Pantry* contrived for the *Captains*; so that the Ship is made useless for a close Fight: For the *Communication* between the Decks, is shut up; and all that were wont formerly to go from the *Gun-Room*, and some *abast* the *Mast*, up and down through the *Steeridge*, are all confined to go up and down at a small *Scuttle* without

206 **Naval Speculations**: Or,
out the *Steeridge*, *abast* the *Mast*; where
all are to pass and repass, with their hot
Meat, Lame and Sick Men; and in any
Weather at Sea, the Boats hoisted in,
Ports Caulked, and *Tarpallings* laid; there
is all the passage for the whole Ships Com-
pany below the Deck, and all the Air
can be spared them: Officers and all, if
but a sudden Allarm of Weather, Acci-
dent, or Enemy happen, you would bless
your self to see Men tumble on one ano-
ther's Backs, and a long while before got-
ten up: No wonder if the Men fall sick,
and Infections run from one end of the
Ship to the other, and the *Provisions*
Taint, and grow stinking: *Butter*, *Cheese*,
and *Bread*, in a little time after received,
prove unfit to be eaten; *Pease*, and *Oat-
meal* grow Musty, and the Men extream-
ly stifled, for want of Air: If such things
should have been done in *Blake*, *Lawson*,
Minns, or any of the former *Commanders*
in Chief their Times, they would soon
have

have been turned to seek for Commands ; and for the Warrant Officers, they live more like Dogs ; I mean, *Spaniels* than Men, *For he, by Nature, Fawns on him that beats him* ; so ought a Warrant Officer to do, if the Cane of his Captain, comes over his Shoulders ; there is no better Remedy, than to be like the *Spaniel* : Nay, I am much mistaken, if Lieutenants scruple to strike a Warrant Officer, and that upon slight occasions : But I am now something in Passion on this matter, but I hold, and am really not desirous to expose the matter, but rather to cast a Mantle over it a while ; but if I had said nothing of it, I had said nothing to purpose ; but out of the whole bundle, I draw you these few Samples, by which you may know the rest ; and if I am not mistaken, the Officers must be pitiful small-soul'd Men, and know little, and cannot possibly be Men fit for their Employments, as they ought ; for they must acquire

208 **Naval Speculations:** Or,
acquire their Offices, by those ways I formerly told, and must have a Faculty of Lying, Fawning, Flattering, and Creeping to the Captains Servants; for it's well if they be not too high for their Converse: I am sure they are better accommodated, and have more quiet Enjoyment; for they have the *Steeridge* and *Cabins* at large, and the Warrant Officers have no way to the Air from between Decks, but under the Loufie Hammocks, and Sick Bodies in the way, where the Men are hung in bundles, the Ports Caulked in, no breathing, but the Stench of one another: Abominable Proceedings, Inhuman Command, and Preposterous Management, and such as, I thought, I should never have lived to have seen an *English* Ship so governed, much more in general; yet out of it some are to be excepted, but too few. Also this smells rank of the said Weed.

Again,

Again, The Ship is furnished with Boats, viz. Barge, or Pinnace, Yawle, and Long-Boat, according to the Rate of the Ship; and it hath been meant formerly, that these Boats were to be serviceable to the Ship, and Company, in transporting them on Board, and on Shoar, with Necessaries, and Conveniencies that may be wanted, for the Company, at the order and direction of the Captain: Now if such Commands are carried, that no Officer dare to ask, or expect to have a Boat, upon any urgent occasion, for the transporting himself, Stores, &c. in the execution of his Office, upon his reasonable Request, but must hire Boats: Nay, that an Officer cannot be carried on Shoar, or on Board, but slightly refused, left behind the Ship, himself and Stores, and in Places and Times when Boats cannot be had for Love, nor Money: I mean, when the Practice is such, that his Superiour shall declare it beneath him, to go

210 **Naval Speculations:** Or,
in Boat with his Officer; or, that the
Lieutenants shall be in their Commands,
fleighting their Officers, and Mariners,
for their Transports on Board, or on
Shoar, with their Servants, and Necessa-
ries, for their *reasonable Accommodation*;
and are thereby left behind, or put to
great Shifts, and Charges therein; and a
general Disregard, and Disrespect shewed
them before the Company: So that all
the whole Series of the Command, in the
Affairs of the Ship, runs upon hard terms,
in fleighting, and Contemptible usage of
Warrant Officers, the Particulars being
too many to mention here; all which are
sprang up of late, in the practice of the
Sea Commands, since the planting of the
aforesaid Weed; were it not a Protection
of such *Imperial Commands*, to settle *Ar-*
bitrary, and *Despotical Power* at Sea, as I
have before shewed: It would not have
found such a Harmony in so many of the
Commissioned Officers, to act in so direct a
Line

Line to the said Mark. But those *Babel-Builders*, as I said elsewhere, having been disappointed of their Designs, by God's Providence on the Nation, on Shoar, and the *Builders* divided and dispersed : So I doubt not, but that the *Navy* also, may feel the warmth of the Divine Favour, to dispel the *Sulphurous Vapours* of that noisome *Weed* of *Arbitrary, Despotical* and *Tyrannical Power*, and pack it away to the Frippery of those dark Regions of *Lucifer's Kingdom*, by whose *Contrivance*, and for whose *Dominion* it was only calculated and invented, ushered in by *Superstition*, and *Idolatry* ; but to our *Sovereigns*, and their Kingdoms, God grant there be confirmed, a lasting *Monarchy*, Governing by wholesome Laws, Watered, and Pruned by multitude of Council, wherein there is safety ; and never to root up the beautiful Plants, and Scions engrafted, and moistened with the Blood of our *Ancestors*,

212 **Naval Speculations:** Or,
stors, viz. The Fundamental Laws estab-
lished in Church and State.

Again, They being the essential parts of Government, *viz. the Civil*, as well as *Military*; which are both to be here respected; I mean, for Men to be kept in due obedience to the *Penal Laws* of the Nation; the Executor of which Laws, is the Captain: Now if he does not cause a strict Enquiry to be had, when *Robberies* and *Thefts* are committed on Board, *Mens Chests* broken up, their *Cloaths*, *Viſtuals*, *Moneys*, or *Goods* stolen from them; for it is a very hard matter to have a Search, (or dare any to accuse some Persons, because they are Favourites, or so far off) as the Favourite of a Favourite, because it is not easie for any one to bring his matter into proof, every one doubting, that it is not safe to give in Evidence against one that has favour: And in fine, my meaning is, when Justice is administered to the People at such a distance, and
at

at such hazard to receive it, that it were better to let it alone than to receive it; that then *Theft, Robbery, Cosening, Cheating*, and all Wrongs to each other, must needs be very rife: As for Example.

If the Itinerant Judges of the Nation, should omit the Execution of their Offices in the *Circuits*; as also the *Judicial Courts* aloft in the *Terms*, at their Pleasures? What manner of Living, for safety of *Goods*, or *Lives* could be expected in such Government? Will you say it is the *Captain's* Pleasure to remit the wrong done to *Tom* by *Jack*, and let the Offender go free? By the same Rule, the Judge may pardon the Offender, that is accused of wrong done to his Neighbour: This is also a Fruit of the aforesaid Weed, and would be very unsavory to the Palates on Shoar: And why not on Board, I know not. But, as I said before, Justice ought to run down, as a mighty stream, that the meanest of the Ship may catch it in

214 **Naval Speculations.** Or,
their Caps at will ; nor do I believe, that
the Captain hath power to dispence with
any of the *Punitivè* Laws of the Nation,
provided against *Pettilarconies*, or *Thefts*,
Burglariës, of Breaking, or Picking of
Locks, *Pocket-picking*, *Cheating*, Borrow-
ing and not Paying, but that falls more
immediately under the Pay of the Ship;
but all things that may be executed at
Sea, ought to be done by the Antient
Laws and Constitutions of the *Seas*, and
not to suspend the Execution thereof at
the Captain's Will; but if it be more
proper to suspend the Execution thereof,
till come to a *Flag*, or *Commissioners* a shoar,
that then also, although it be not under
his power, yet then he ought to bear
such favour to Justice, as to defend the
Innocent, and bring the Offender to
Punishment; that he should make it his
business to become as an Advocate for
the wronged Party. I say, where you
find these Matters of Justice to be stopt
in

in the Currents ; and, that Abuses, Robberies, Cheatings, Revellings, Brawlings, and Batteries, are frequently committed, and seldom taken notice of for redress, except to a Favourite : Nay, the very Provisions of the Ship, embezzelled, and abused ; and many Enormous Outrages committed : And, I say, Redresses not freely, heartily, and indifferently administered ; that there you may see the plain Fruit of *Arbitrary Power*, and that *Commander* is glutted with it, and wants a strong Purge of the Extracts of *Abdication*.

Now, after the *Military* and *Civil* Government of the Ship, although worthy of Preference, yet it comes in here to bring up the Rear, *viz.* *Ecclesiastical* Government, the keeping the People to the due Resort to the *publick Service*, according to the Laws of the Nation ; and to observe as well the Neglecters thereof, through an Atheistical, Debauched, and

216 **Naval Speculations:** Or,
Irreligious Temper ; as the Contemners,
viz. Roman Catholicks, or lately so, and di-
vers other *Opinions*, and *Perswasions*, and
to bear such a respect towards every one of
them, in their *Perswasions*, as is agreeable
to the Laws of the Nation, by which he
ought to Govern. And moreover, ac-
cording as he finds the Practice of Their
Majesties are towards *differing Perswasions*,
in their Government, provided it be
not against the Fundamental Laws of the
Nation, so ought he to be consonant
thereto in his Government ; but on the
contrary, if he shall favour *Roman Catho-
licks*, or those that were so lately, and
keep them in his Favour, endeavouring to
prefer them to Employments, or that he
shall so dispose his Favours, that it ever
tends to a particular Party, whatsoever it
be that is repugnant to the Established
Laws of the Nation ; he does endeavour
thereby, to introduce, foster, and nou-
rish Division in the Fleet, and consequent-
ly

ly in the Nation, and doth not serve the Publick, according to the Compact and Conditions he received his Commission upon, and thereto plights his Troth; but with that part of the Wealth and Strength of the Nation that he is intrusted with, does endeavour, what lies in him, to deceive his Employers; and causes their Money, &c. to be expended, contrary to their Wills, or Knowledge, to the Maintenance of theirs, and the Nations Enemies, viz. the Enemies of the Laws, which are the Enemies of the Nation; which is to *Tantamount* holding Correspondence, and disposing of the Treasure of the Nation to their Enemies.

Again, If the *Captain* be a *Drunkard*, *Swearer*, *Curser*, *Lyer*, *Cheater*, *Gamer*, *profuse Spendthrift*, *Riotous*, *Reviler*, *Libidinous Whore-monger*, or *Flagitiously wicked*, where any, or many of these, or the like Sins, are eminently found in him, his Service cannot be good; and also his

Ex-

218 **Naval Speculations:** Or,
Examples are very taking to the Officers,
and *Mariners* in general; and more especially, where *Despotical Power* is exercised: For it has been an Observation made on the Lives of the *Cæsars*, That in the Life of *Augustus*, he made Learned Men to flourish, and the Empire to abound with them; *Tiberius* his Successor, made the Empire to abound with Debauched Persons, Sycophants, and Villains; *Trajan* with grave Men, and good Soldiers; so likewise here a Debauched Captain can never expect a sober Ships Company, and the like of all other Vices: So that, I say, the Example of a Commander in the Government of the Ship, carries with it as great Imitation, as any thing I know.

Again, How can it be expected, that a Captain that Swears at a shameful rate, and Damns at every Sentence almost, can command, according to the antient Government of the *Navy*, or the present
Laws

Laws of the Nation, which puts me in mind of some old ways of Government in these things; *viz.* Any Man that was found to be Drunk, the *Gunner* had a certain Shoulder-Belt, kept for that purpose, and he was to wear it, until there was another found in the same fault, who should take it off him; but it was not at all pesting, for if he wore it often, and much, it was a blot to his Reputation, and a clog to his Preferment: Also a Swearer, when taken, had a Ridiculous Cap, which was his lot to wear, till he caught another in the same fault: Also for a Lyer, there was found one or two who had told Lyes, and on proof, they were hoisted up on the main Stay, with Brooms, Buckets, and Shovels tyed to them, and all the Ships Company crying out, *A Lyer, a Lyer, &c.* and for that fault they were to Swab, and make clean such parts of the Decks all that Week, or until others were found; but if the Swearer

er

er now were to wear the Cap, or the Drunkard the Belt, where Swearing is used most by the Officers, beginning from the *Captain*, to the *Cook*, and Men, from the *Midshipman*, to the *Swobber*; Drunkenness, unclean and filthy talk of Whoring, boasted of openly before the Ships Company, and by the Officers, and as well allowed of; nay, better than a Sober, Temperate, Honest, and good Behaviour. Now if any of these Practices are in any of Their Ships, I know, and am sorry to speak it, That for many Years past, that not only the *Navy*, but the Nation in general, hath had a vein of Debauchery running through it at a prodigious rate, not one Vice only, but all Vices, from the *Cardinal's* Vice, to the *Parish Priest*; from the *Peer*, to the *Peasant*: And all these Abominations were brought amongst us, by like Pollicies, as the *Moabites* did to the Children of *Israel*, by the Advice of *Balam*, to commit wickedness

edness with their Women, and anger the Lord; so was this no less a design contrived at *Rome*, That finding they could not shake the *Church of England*, by dint of Argument, nor undermine it by secret maintaining of Heresies and Schisms within her Bowels; this third Project of *Balam* is tried, with the pleasures of Wick- edness, of the most flagitious and sinful- lest Nature; nay, both Prince and Pre- late, that Religion was as little practised, as meant, in any Matters; nay, it was rather a Subject for Ridicule: This did go near, and bid for the Mark, having effeminated, and destroyed the Prowess, good Methods, and Government of our Armies, by Sea, and Land, and shook even the Pillars of the Church. Where- fore, I think, it may be high time to ap- ply a Remedy to this foul Disease, insi- nuated, and dispersed as well into the *Navy*, as Land, that the Nation do not lie under God's Interdict, for their for- mer

222 **Nabal Speculations:** Or,
mer Pollutions spoken of; for *Israel* had
a smart Scourge sent them, for being ta-
ken with *Balam's* Device: So hoping as
well the *Navy*, as the *Land*, may re-as-
sume their Pristine Order, Government,
and Innocence, and then may we hope
God's Judgments may be averted for
what is past.

But before I take leave on Ship-board,
I will entertain you with a short Dia-
logue, between the four standing Offi-
cers, *viz.*

Jack Purser, Tom Boatswain, Ralph
Gunner, and Stephen Carpenter.

Enter Purser.

How is't, Brother Tom, to day, af-
ter your Quarter-Deck Lecture?

Boatsw. Heart-whole still, for that will
not easily break, though my Young Liente-
nant's Cane fell pockily upon the string on't,
Purs.

Purs. But how came it to pass? Prithee tell me, Tom.

Boatsw. Thus: As I was sitting upon that Step, the Captain's Raft of Boys, playing in the Steeridge, came thundering out of the Door over me, and over-set me Horse and Foot, with my Viſtuals in my hand; you know, I durst not go in and sit down to eat my Viſtuals, for there stands a Centinel with a drawn Sword, to keep us out, and another with a flaming Blade at the great Cabin-door; so I recovered up, and took one of them a Lick or two, with this little Rod, he happened to be the Young Lieutenant's half-pay Man, but I knew it not; he seeing it off the Quarter-Deck, came to me saying, Sirrah, How dare you strike that Fellow? And paid me double, Iſaith, and called me all to nought beside.

Purs. Ha, I'm sorry; But wont you complain to the Captain on't?

Boatsw.

Boatsw. You know enough of that, so I may have as much more; remember your Steward t'other day, for denying the Captain's Boys Candle to play at Cards with.

*Carp. You may remember, Purser, yourself, how you were treated but last Week, for bidding the Cooper deliver no more Pease, nor Oatmeal for the Captain's Sheep, and Fowls, till that was spent; I lookt for the Strappado on you, but, I think, the Cooper bore the more for that time: Pri-
thee Gunner, Why do'st Scrub so? Art Lousie?*

Gunn. Faith, very Lousie, going up and down this Scuttle, under the Hamocks, and the poor Men hang so thick, that I cannot pass, and the Men are stifled for want of Air: Purser, Are not you Lousie?

*Purs. Faith, never so Lousie in my life; and we are choaked all in the Cock-pit, the steem of the Hold, for want of passage up the Steeridge way, kills us: I cannot endure my Cabin, for the Men come so
thick*

thick down, and the Room is so strait, that we cannot turn; for you know, the Captain's Store-Room, is half the Cock-pit.

Carp. You know, I was forced to enlarge it thither, lest I should have my Pate broke, and do it afterwards.

Purs. I cannot tell where to go and breath a little; come let's go down to the Gunner's Cabin, there's a little Air; I'll make a Can of Flip, Boys.

Gunn. Faith, I'm a most afraid of your coming there; for you know, the Captain's Cosin is in the Gun-room side Cabin, and it will be carried up to the Captain, that we are all together: Whist, This is one of the Captain's Servants stands and hearkens to us; come hang it, let us go down Tom, Stephen. A Nod.

Purs. Send your Boy for a Can of Beer, Gunner, I'll bring t'other things.

Q

Boatsw.

Boatsw. But how com'st thee off, Stephen? I heard that you was sent for up to the Eldest Lieutenant, for not making a Locker aloft for their Boys.

Carp. Faith, Tom, I gave sugary Words, and came off better than I did a Fortnight agoe, for not making his Boy a hanging Cabin in the Cock-pit; he gave me a scurvy drub or two, and a curse or two at the end on't.

Gunn. Faith, I am heartless; here's no hopes of comfort in this Voyage; I was never so cast down in my life: For I hoped that this Voyage would have mended our Lives; and now, I'm out of hopes, although the Captain says little, yet he leaves the Lieutenants too rampant over us: Gentlemen, our dancing Days are over, I see it grows worse and worse; 'tis not ~~us~~ alone, but I hear it a Board of most Ships, I speak with: Would to God, I had been a Tayler, Tinker, any Trade to get my Living on Shoar with; for the Navy Employment,
viz.

viz. Warrant Officers are turned to a Vassalage unsufferable: Well, I'm resolv'd to find some way to live on Shoar.

Purs. Here, Tom, Health, and a good Arrival at Portsmouth, I'm resolv'd as soon as I can wind up my Bottoms; I'll leave the Sea. Cheer up, Lads.

Carp. Well, I liv'd a better life with my Adds on Shoar, than I do here, and saw more merry days in a Week, than I shall in a Month at Sea, as things are now: I was born to work, and so I do here, but no content; the Egyptian Bondage was not worse, I believe.

Purs. Why truly, Gentlemen, the Navy is come to a bad piss; happy is that Man that hath but a Morsel to eat at home in quiet: Since I've known the Navy, there was some comfort in our Lives at Sea, and a Warrant Officer had some Countenance from the Captain, and would often eat and drink with them; but now they are Pist upon by every Body: Well, I'll take care

Boatsw. But how com'st thee off, Stephen? I heard that you was sent for up to the Eldest Lieutenant, for not making a Locker aloft for their Boys.

Carp. Faith, Tom, I gave sugary Words, and came off better than I did a Fortnight agoe, for not making his Boy a hanging Cabin in the Cock-pit; he gave me a scurvy drub or two, and a curse or two at the end on't.

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228 **Naval Speculations:** Or,
*for one, skortly; our Drink is done, and
so Farewel, before we be ill represented to
the Captain, for this meeting: Exit.*

Thus having run through the Affairs of
the *Naval* strength of the Nation, with a
swift motion, as I promised, not daring
to tarry longer upon it, lest my Ink should
gall, and fret it; but my Application and
Intention, being only as a Balsamick
Oyntment; and therewith to stroak it
gently, to heal it of the Scurf and Taint,
that it hath been lately infected with, by
that Infernal Weed so often mentioned
before.

VIII. *Of the Seminary for Breeding, and Maintaining of Seamen.*

1. *The Chest.*
2. *The providing for the Poor Male Children of the Nation.*
3. *The Encouragement of Fishery.*
4. *Merchants Employments.*

THE Navy, as I have said before, by which we must gain, and maintain our antient Rights of the Dominion of the *Narrow Seas*, &c. will require a settled Policy; as for the Government thereof; so also for the Breeding, and Maintaining of *Marriners*, and *Maritime People*, such a Policy, as shall produce a sufficient number of the product of the People of the Nation, by a kind of willing

230 **Naval Speculations:** Or,
Constraint, to addict themselves to *Maritime Lives*; I say, sufficient for the increase of our Power at Sea; and to supply the places at all times of those that the Wars and Accidents thereof, shall from time to time consume.

First, The *Chest*, being an old Provision, or Policy devised, and enacted in the Reign of Queen *Elizabeth*, whose Memory may never be forgotten in this Land; not only for settling and confirming the *Protestant Religion*; but by putting the Nation into such a posture of Military Defence both by Sea and Land; by building of *Ships, Docks, Forts, Castles, &c.* and providing of *Artillery and Munitions* for War, that this Land hath not only defended themselves against the shocks of War, made by most of the Potent Princes, upon it, abroad: Notwithstanding the often *Rebellions* in *Ireland*, and *Jars* of *Scotland*, near two third parts of the now *British Dominions*, giving her
con-

continual Diversions at home; yet by the Divine Assistance, with good Counsellors, Publick, and Heroick Spirited, Just, and Wise Leaders, and Commanders, and a Consentaneous, Agreeable Disposition in all her Subjects together, for the end desired, *viz.* To maintain their Sovereign, Religion, and Laws from being Conquered, or Imposed upon by any, or all the Princes of *Europe*; notwithstanding they were destitute of Allies to assist them; but on the contrary, gave often Assistance, and Succours to the *Dutch* and *French Protestants*: I say, notwithstanding all these great Rubs, she defended this Island, not only from any great Exploits done on her; but scoured the Seas, and carried the War into her Enemies Countries, to her eternal Fame, and their no less Shame: The Particulars of which are easily gathered out of the Histories of her Life, and the Monuments of her; as, *Castles, Forts, Ships, Artillery, and Military*

232 **Naval Speculations** Or,
litary Provisions remaining, with us, to
this day, will witness; the Memory of
whom, and the Actions of whose days, I
cannot let pass, without mentioning: *viz.*
She came to the Crown in a time when
the Nation was fresh bleeding of the
Wounds given them by their most cruel,
and bloody Enemies; beside which
Wounds, it was inwardly sick of *Male-*
contents; and the Extreame Parts, *viz.*
Ireland, and *Scotland*, so gangren'd, that
it had been more happy for her, they had
not been: At which time, I say, God
gave them a Sovereign, that with his Di-
vine Assistance, &c. bound up their
Wounds, and healed their Sickness in
Church and State; in comparison of
which Time and Opportunity, I think it
very proper to bring in our Sovereigns;
yet, I hope, not from a Temper of an ill-
boding Prophet, to forewarn us, to pre-
pare for some long time of *Maritime Con-*
tentions, believing, That before the Seas
will

will be again settled in Peace, there may be many hard Tugs, but between what Nations, I guess not : But, I say, that both the *Dane*, and *Swede* are Arming to put in their Sickles for a Harvest ; beside *Dutch*, *French*, *Spaniard*, and *Portugues*. As in a Brawl, Riot, or Breach of the Peace, whosoever pretends to preserve the Peace of that place, or would preserve himself, and have a Rule and Dominion there, he ought to be of greater strength than the Rioters, or else he were better to hold his Peace, and keep farther off, lest the said Rioters shall do, as I have known, in divers Frays; many have joined upon one, whose design was only to part them: Wherefore, I say, we pretending a Right and Dominion in the *Narrow Seas*; and being, by God Almighty, so advantageously seated, as if he intended our Island to be the Husband of these *Northern* and *Western Seas*, from the *Baltick*, to *Cape-Finister*, and by a properer Dominion,

and

234 **Nabal Speculations:** Or,
and Right to be Married to her every
Year, than the *Venetian* has to be Married
to the *Gulf of Venice*, and those Seas, as
they are in solemn manner; the which
Mistress, if we neglect to pay our due
Visits, and suffer her to be Carested, or
evil entreated by others, we may lose her
Affection, and ever after may Court her
in vain for a Smile, to our eternal loss,
and shame, and not to be too sparing of
our Monies in Treating her, like the *Con-*
stantinopolitans, when the *Turk* Besieged
it; the Emperour went about praying
them to spare him Money to pay his Sol-
diers to defend it; who excused them-
selves, that they had it not: But when the
Turk took it, he found enough to pay
his Men therewith.

It is high time now to return to the
Chest, settled in the said Queens Reign:
which is, That every Warrant Officer,
and Sea-man, in the Service, has deduct-
ed out of his Pay, Six-pence *per Month*,
by

by the *Pay-master* of the *Navy*, who pays the same to so many, *viz.* *Pursers*, *Boatswains*, and *Gunners*, (of the First Rates, commonly,) in all, I think, five, who are new chosen yearly, and are called *Governours* of the *Chest*; who have their Annual Meetings, to adjust their Accounts with their Receiver, or *Clerk*; and to appoint the *Gratuities* they allow for *Smart-Money*, what they shall think good to allow a Man either at that instant, and an Annual Pension during life, or according to his Wound, or Loss, only to give him a Sumn, and no Pension: I say, that present Money is called *Smart-Money*, and the other a Pension. Now they are a *Corporation* by Act of Parliament, with power to buy or sell Land, &c. They have also, a *Supervisor*, who is most commonly a *Commissioner* of the *Navy*: And moreover, the *Lord High Admiral*, or *Commissioners* of the *Admiralty*, hath a *Superfeding* Power over them; an excellent

236 **Naval Speculations** Or,
lent Pollicy; for if a Man loses a Limb,
he receives six Pounds thirteen Shillings
four Pence Yearly, for his Life, and one
Year at entrance, for Smart-Money:
The whole Man, that hath paid his Six-
pences all his Life, and never received
any, may bless God that he never came
under that Circumstance; and he that
does, may also bless God for raising the
said Queens Heart to make that Provision
for him to support his Needs. I have not a
mind to find Fault with the Management,
nor have I heard much cause for it; but I
do not admire the giving of Salaries to
Chirurgeons abroad, to certifie, &c.
whereas the Parties aggrieved, would find
of the Officers that are Witnesses of the
Chance, enough to let them know the
truth thereof, and not Persons interested
in their Cure a Shoar, and never saw the
Mischance. I will say no more, but thus,
That the best Constituted Pollicies that
ever yet were in the World; nay, go so
high

high as God's Church, they are Humane, and Servants, or rather Subjects to time, which corrupts, and rusts the most durable things; and therefore, for its perpetuation, it must undergo some time of cleansing away the Corruptions; after which, it may re-assume its pristine Vigour and Beauty. So, I say, if the Navy may undergo a cleansing, and scouring, so may this also, *viz.* of the right Channels in the first Act and Institution thereof, and pare off all evil, by Orders, or by Constitutions crept in as by Allowances of Wages, and Sallaries to *Receivers, Pay-masters, Clerks, Chyrurgeens, &c.* Sale of Lands, and Rents, and make due Elections, and also for due accounting with the *Pay-master*: Although I accuse not, yet it is not to be doubted, That Corruptions have not failed to be here also; and therefore, I do heartily recommend it to the Inspection of the *Supervisors*, and Visitors of the same: And for an encrease

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crease of the Revenue, That whereas of
late Years, the Ships of small Comple-
ments seldom have Chaplains to supply
the place, that those Groats are ordered
for the *Chest*: I confess, for some time be-
fore, that Money was begged of the King,
by some *Navy* Officers; I think, as odd
a sort of Request, as Gift, to beg the
Money stopt out of Mens Pay, to enrich
them; but now it goes to the *Chest* to re-
lieve the Limbless, and Maimed Sailer,
from whom it is taken.

I say no more, but that if the Ships,
which are fitted out only for the Chanel,
had no Chaplains put on Board them, save
some in the Flags, and only the Allowance
of the Chaplains Eighteen Shillings *per*
Month, be given to one, whom the Cap-
tain, or majority of Officers shall chuse
to read Prayers, and do the Offices for
the Dead; the said Eighteen Shillings *per*
Month, added to his other Pay, would
be a sufficient Recompence for the same;
but

but any that goes out of the Chanel, should have Chaplains, and they able, as I said before: But in the Chanel, there is the greatest Ships, and most Money given away, and for the least purpose, for very seldom have they Opportunities for other than Prayers, and that rarely, for they are either coming in, or going out, heaving, working, or coming to Anchor, or bad Weather in the Chanel; so that I say, the use of such Missions serves to a very little purpose, viz. to instruct Men to a Godly Life. For the Prayers, I spake before of, would amount to as much, and many poor maimed Men be relieved with the same; the which is no small Sums in the great Ships, which are in the Chanel; but when Ships are to go on a Foreign Voyage, they should never go without able Men.

Secondly, To Provide for the Poor Male Children of the Nation, That is, a great part of the product of the People of the Na-

Nation are poor People, who are not able to provide for the Fruit of their own Bodies; so that in the Reign of the said good Queen *Elizabeth*, was devised, and enacted a Law for an equal Tax to be raised from all Estates, Personal, and Real, for the Relief of the Poor; and therein prescribed a Method to keep the Poor on work, to avoid their being idle and useless in the State; that they might not live in Idleness, and Looseness at the charge of their Neighbours, which part of the Law took so little effect, that no *Workhouses* were used but of a general pity to the Poor, which made that defect; so that of that Act, only one part took effect, *viz.* the poor were provided for in their Wants, which fell upon them by Converting the Lands of the Monasticks, and Recluses, into Lay Possessions, on which depended great numbers of People, Poor, and Idle; but for that part which was to provide for their Idleness, that they

they might not live useleſs, and burthenſome Members of the State, took, I ſay; no effect; but that they, and their Children alſo, bred up in the ſaid Idle Life, are generally Heirs of their Parents Poverty; by which they are conſtant ſharrers of their Neighbours Eſtates, and Labours, and are of no more uſe to the State, than by their generally fruitful Procreations, and ſerve to people the Nation; of which there is great want, conſidering the Situation, Product, and Manufact thereof, ſufficient to afford Maintainance, and Employment for five times the number; and eſpecially upon the Seas, to Employ five times the number, which would Employ, and Maintain ten times the number on the Land.

Now that there might be a kind of willing Constraint (if I may ſay ſo) on the People, to addiſt themſelves to *Maritime Lives*, which might produce the effect of producing *Seamen*, and encrea-

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ſing

sing our *Maritime* strength: If there were
 a Law enacted, that every *poor Boy* of a
 Parent, that receives Alms from the Pa-
 rish, ¹ shall, at the Age of Fourteen Years,
 be brought to the Sheriff of every Coun-
 ty, with an Indenture made by a Justice
 of Peace, and Bound to the King, until
 he comes to the Age of Twenty four
 Years, as the former Law directs; which
 Sheriff shall cause a Pass to be made, and
 convey them from Parish to Parish, at the
 Countrys Charges, to *London*, to a gene-
 ral Hospital, *viz.* at *Greenwich*, the great
 new House that stands void there, it
 might soon be fitted into an excellent ge-
 neral Hospital; where should be Officers
 appointed to keep them, *viz.* a Superan-
 nuated *Captain*, to Command the House,
 a *Purser*, to Victual them, with Petty-
 Warrants from the *Viĉtualling-Office*; a
Boatswain, *Gunner*, and *Carpenter*, all
 Superannuated Officers; each to take a
 Squadron of them under their care, to

go with them, and Employ them in the Yard at *Deptford*, to serve the *Caulkers*, and such Work as *Boys* may do ; and to have *Junk* to the House, and pick *Oakum* there, and dry it ready for all the Yards ; and some of them that are fit to be taught, there, to Write, and Read, and learn *Navigation* ; to be divided, and ordered into Squadrons, by the said *Captain*, and lodged in Beds, and Hammocks, as if on Board ; and also, at every one of the *King's-Yards*, let there be a proportionable Hospital provided to keep a convenient number of them, to be sent from the general Hospital from time to time, as they shall dispose of them, *viz.* all the *King's-Officers* Warranted, that have Servants allowed them, if there be Servants in these Hospitals, should take of them ; to be Turn'd-over, with their *Indentures*, and bound to them by the *Commissioner* of the place, who shall serve them in the full of their *Indenture* made to the *King* ;

also at the general Hospital, should be a *Commissioner* of the Navy, whose particular Station shall be to Oversee the same, and by his Clerk enter all the Names in a general *Entry-Book*, and dispose them to their Places, Yards, &c. keeping a fair *Ledger* of their Names, Places, Whence, Time, Whither Disposed, and When; and also shall at their *Matriculation*, or Entrance, cause on one of their Arms to be made a Mark in the Skin, with Powder, that may never be gotten out, viz. a K, or what other Letter may be thought good, to signify whose Servants they are, in case they should desert their Service; that it should be a damage sufficient to any one that entertains them, to deter them from it.

I do herein but mark out the rough Lines of the Projection, which must be amply Polished by the Act of Parliament, and by the *Admiralty*, to methodize it: It would be too tedious for me here; beside,

it

it would be Presumption in me, to light a Candle to the Sun.

I will only hint a few things necessary thereto, *viz.* if such Orders were, That no Merchant Ship shall go to Sea, but shall receive of the said Commissioner, to every Six or Ten Persons the Ship shall carry, one of these Boys; they to bring their Certificate for their clearing, as from the Custom-house, so from the Commissioner of this Affair; and at their return, to give the said Commissioner an Account of what is become of the Boys, and return them, and pay, or Account with the Commissioner for the time they had served them, at the rate of so many Shillings *per* Month, as they are Years old; and if the Commissioner, and Master does agree, then he to take him for the King's Term; or else the Commissioner, upon the receipt of his Wages, out of which he is to allow for Cloaths, in the Voyage, not exceeding Five Shil-

246 **Naval Speculations:** Or,
lings *per Month*, to order him elsewhere;
Cloathing him with the remainder, and
dispose of him without further Charge
to the *King*, if possible: So that after
the time he is so put abroad, whatsoever
Money he clears at his return, he must
have an *Account*, *Debtor*, and *Creditor*,
kept for him; so that he must either clear
so much, as the *King* hath been at Charges
with him, at five Pence *per diem*, which
Account he must clear, before he receives
a Certificate from the said *Commissioner*,
that he is Manumised, or cleared the Ser-
vice: And in the mean time, if he serves
any other Master, and produces not the
said Certificate of his Manumisement, the
said Master is chargeable with the said
Wages, all, except so much as he hath re-
ceived in Cloaths, which must not exceed
five Shillings *per Month*; and what he
shall have gained beyond his Charges,
should also be justly paid him at his Ma-
numisement, Moreover, all the *King's*
Officers

Officers that shall take them for the whole Term, should pay for one *Boy* Ten Pounds, and receive them at Sixteen Years Old; which Moneys should be stopt out of his Pay; for every one that wants Servants, hath not Ten Pounds to lay down, which Servants shall be paid Wages by the *King*, to his *Master*, for every Year they shall serve of the Indenture, so many Shillings *per* Month, as they are Years Old; which Servants will be better to the Officers, than such as they can get themselves; for they never need fear the running away of them; if they run, they are to be found easily, by their *Marks*, that they cannot deceive any one that Entertains them; the said Officers having the same Right to gain them again with their Wages, for their absent time, as the *King* hath for such as he puts abroad to *Merchant-men*: The same Privileges to all *Carpenters*, *Caulkers*, *Rope-makers*, &c. that shall take any of them: So that eve-

248 **Nabal Speculations** : Or,
ry one will covet to take the King's Ser-
vants, for the certainty of them; and they
well consequently prove better Servants,
knowing they cannot shift their Services;
And also there should be a Respect had
to them in the Service, during their In-
dentures, by the *Commissioners*, to see
them not wronged by their Masters: And
also at the end of their Indentures, or
before, according to their Deserts, they
should be preferred.

Now every Parish that hath not one
Boy, to send to the *King*, should be joyn-
ed to the next adjacent Parish, for the re-
lief of their *Poor*, who sends above two
Boys Yearly, as aforesaid; this to be done
by the Justices of the Peace, in their re-
spective Divisions, and every Overseer,
and Church-warden of every Parish, shall
at every petty Sessions, at one set time in
the Year, produce, to the said Justices,
a Receipt from the Sheriff, of the *Boys*
delivered the Year past, with the Names,
and

and Ages of the said *Boys* ; and also, the said Sheriff shall, at the passing his Accounts for his Year, deliver into the Exchequer, a true Roll, or List, in Parchment, of the *Boys* sent that Year, containing the Age, Name, and Place of Abode, of the said *Boys* ; and when, and whither sent, with the *Commissioner's* Receipt for them, which should be transacted, by a Post Letter of Advice to the *Commissioner*, when he sends, which should be answered by the *Commissioner*, whether received, or not.

In the said Roll, given into the *Exchequer*, their Names should be set Alphabetically, for easie finding them; which should be there filled up, and kept safe, to be examined by any one that shall enquire after any *Boy*, viz. their Parents, Relations, Friends, &c. who may have liberty to redeem them out of the Service, paying so much for every Year the King has been at Charges with them, by Methods ordered; for some may have Estates

250 **Naval Speculations:** Or,
states fallen to them, or Parents: And al-
so, once every Year, the *Commissioner* at
the *General Hospital*, shall by his Clerk,
transmit into the *Exchequer*, a fair *Ledger*
Book of all the *Boys* entred, and sent out
that Year, from whence received, and to
whom bound out; that a good Account
may be had thereof, when desired: Also
the *Justices of the Peace*, at the Binding
the *Boys* to the *King*, should take care,
that he binds none that are not found in
Body; and for his guidance therein,
should receive a Presentment, signed by
the *Minister*, *Church-wardens*, and *Over-*
seers of the Poor of that Parish, contain-
ing the Age, Name, and place of Abode,
and soundness of Body and Limbs of the
said *Boy*, and that they desire may be
received into the *King's Service*, accord-
ing to the said Act; and if it may be, let
the Parent, if alive, or nearest of Kin,
sign it also. I say, I do only hint the
matter, and will hereto add, That the
Be-

Benefits hereby, would be in a greater degree than I can set forth, and be of little purpose to endeavour; it would only serve to lengthen my Discourse, and yet come short of every Intelligent Man's Reasons, which they may collect out of their more large *Speculations*. Wherefore I only affirm, That within Ten, nay Seven Years, would be added to our *Naval Strength* many Thousands of good and able *Mariners*, and *Artificers*, and would be an ever-living *Seminary* thereof; and for their constant Employment, both in *War*, and *Peace*, I shall (God willing) shew in the Sequel.

Thirdly, The Encouragement of Fishery.

By the *Fishery*, I understand, this Nation had thier first introduction to their *Maritime Growth*, and together with their large *Drapery*, or *Wollen Manufactures*, not omitting their Acquisitions by Trade
in

in the *West-Indies*, and also the *East*; all which, and especially the former, and the latter, are now suffering under a very great declension. As for the latter, I can say little as yet; but the former I will say it is in our power yet to regain by these means following.

1. That a great reason of our decay of *Fisbery*, is our laying aside the Observation of *Lent*, upon the Account of a Religious Observation; the which, I fancy to be a general mistake; for the Institution thereof was never in *England*, upon any other than a Pollitick Account; although the Church, according to the Primitive Examples, hath advised all in her Community, to keep some certain Days in the Week of Abstinence, from the more liberal Feeding, for the easier subduing of Carnal Concupiscence, and casting up their Errors of the Week, and chiefly on *Friday*, the Day of our Saviour's Suffering; so once in the Year, for the

the whole Years Account, and according unto Primitive Institution, and in Imitation, or Example of our Saviour's Forty Days Abstinence in the Wilderness, setting it at the time of the Year in preparation to the Celebrating the Commemoration of that great Work of our Saviour's, *The Redemption of Mankind*, at the *Passover*, or *Paschal-Feast* of the *Jews*; so with us, the Feast of *Easter*, at which time she advises all her Disciples, to receive the *Holy Communion*, in a more *Particular*, and *Universal Communion*, and *Conjunction*; and Invites, at that time especially, the *Catechumene*, or *Younger Christians*, to enter into the said *Communion*: yet notwithstanding, I say, I do not find by the Constitutions of the *English Church*, that she denounces any *Judgments*, or *Excommunications*, for the non-observance of the said *Lent*, or *Days of Abstinence*; but by way of Request, and Advice thereto, for their better preparation for the

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the receiving that most *Holy Sacrament*;
but he which thinks it no means towards
it, may not observe it, but may be under
a mistake; and he which thinks it may be
a means, may observe it, and may be in
the right: Yet to learn of the Apostle,
*Him that eateth not, not to despise him that
eateth; and him that abstaineth not, not
to despise him that abstaineth*: But, I hope,
no Religious Man will deny, but that
Days of Abstinence, and general Publick
Fasts, are useful Preparations to Holy
Duties; yet so I take it, That it is the
Civil Policy of the Nation that enjoyned
the keeping of *Lent*, upon the Account
of encouraging the Trade of *Fishery*, to
advance the *Naval Strength*, in the en-
creasing of *Maritime People* for the taking
it, and the supporting of *Navigation*, and
promoting of Foreign Trade, by the
Transporting it abroad into other Coun-
trys, where it is acceptable, and for the
encrease of *Cattle, Fowl, &c.*

Now

Now the common Objections, are these two :

First, That it is the Relicks of *Popery* and *Superstition*.

It is Answered already, That the *Church* makes no necessity for the *Religious Observation* thereof.

The Second is, That our plenty of *Flesh* requires no preservation, &c.

I Answer, That the Season of the Year is such, that there is not so great plenty of *Flesh* at that time of the Year, as at others, which *Flesh* generally is Calves and Lambs, who if they were more sparingly slain for those few Days, after which they would be more mature, and better Meat, and some more would escape the Slaughter, and befor Breed ; and instead thereof we should feed, in some of the Interim on *Fish*, which would be Encouragement, and Maintenance of *Fishermen*, and *Seamen* ; who are themselves to be fed all the rest of the Year, by their Provisions

ons for their other Voyages from the Land, which would take up far greater Quantities of the Product of the Nation, *viz.* Mault, Beefs, Mutton, Bread, Butter, Cheese, and Pease, Oat-meal, and all manner of Cloathing; for one of these at Sea, spends thrice the value of the afore-said Products, with Manufacts of Cloathing, Ship, and Tackle, than a *Country-man*, or *Husband-man* doth; and, I say, be a far more Consumption of the Product, and Manufact of the Nation, than the slaying for those few Days will cause. And moreover, be the answering the main end now in hand, *viz.* The increasing of our *Maritime Strength*, and promoting *Navigation*, for the more large Exportation of our Manufacts, to our great enriching, and security from our *Enemys* abroad, and to the every way procuring the *Strength, Wealth, and Happiness* of the Nation: To which, if it were needful, might be added a grear deal more, to

Invite

Invite the practice thereof, against those groundless Exceptions of debasing the price of Lands; but it is sufficiently answered, in the forgoing, to all reasonable Men: Therefore I only add this one, That we should be capable to fill the *Empories* abroad, with the product of our *Seas*, and grasp a better part of the *Foreign Trade*, which, of late Years, hath been grasped from us, which may prove to our Enlargement, and a stop to their Progress; the which is a more justifiable Proceeding, before *God*, than *Arms*; and more suitable to the practice of the Servant in the *Gospel*, who managed his *Ten Talents*, to the gaining of *Ten more*; which intituled him to the *Engel bone*, &c.

Fourthly, As for the *Merchants Employments*, for the advance of *Sea-men*, and to avoid the great Trouble, Charges, and Abuses in *Pressing of Men*, which hath so little effect; I have said something

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alrea-

258 **Naval Operations:** Or,
already in their carrying of the *King's*
Boys. Now if all *Merchant-men*, who
are bound to any Foreign Parts, should at
their clearing, at the *Custom-house*, leave a
List of their *Ships Company*, containing
the true *Names*, and *Sir-names*, and *plac-*
es of their usual Residence, Ages, &c.
of the *Master*, and *Ships Company*, whi-
ther bound, and when cleared the *Custom-*
house; and also at their entrance of the
Ships into the *Custom-house* upon their re-
turns, a like *Book*, or *List* of what *Men*
she brought home with her, and Signed
by the *Master*; which *Books* shall be sent
by the *General Custom-house Messenger*,
every *Week*, unto the *Admiralty*, where
should be an expert *Clerk*, in a particular
Office, only for that purpose, to receive
the same; and out of the said *Lists*, to
enter into *Books*, he should keep for that
purpose, *viz.* an *Alphabet of Books*, a
Book for each *Letter* Yearly; or perhaps
Twenty Books, may contain the *Twenty*
four

four Letters, some Letters being not so much used, that a Book may contain two or three, all ruled with Columns, *viz.* The Master, Ship, and Companies Names, Places of usual Residence, whence Come, whither Bound, when Entred, Inward, and Outward, &c. And also, that the Vice-Admiral of every County, do by himself, or sufficient Deputy, every Year, or as often as the Lord High Admiral shall direct, Visit all the Sea Ports, Rivers, and Creeks of every Parish, and place where Maritime People Inhabit; as Seamen, Fishermen, Hoymen, Ferry-men, Bargemen, &c. within their several Counties, and there shall send for, or summon before them, the Church-wardens, and Overseers of the Poor, who shall give them account of what such Men live within their Precincts, their true Names, Sir-names, Ages, and Aboads; which said Accounts shall, by the said Vice-Admiral, be drawn into a fair List, and sent unto

260 **Naval Speculations:** Or,
the said Office, and there be entred into
the said Books. Now the *Vice-Admiral*
might, by his Warrant, send to the said
Parishes, to send in to him, by such a day
appointed, at a most convenient place
for their ease, the said Account; and in
case any shall neglect the said Duty, or
Conceal any Man that hath used the said
Practice, and place, for the space of Six
Months, from between the Ages of Eigh-
teen, and Sixty, that are not worth one
Hundred Pounds clear, when Debts paid,
or in such sort as the *Lord High Admiral*
shall direct his Warrant to the *Vice-Ad-
miral*; the Nature, and Substance of the
Vice-Admirals to contain the substance of
the *High-Admirals*; which Returns, or
Presentments, least they prove to be false
by Concealments, and Partialities, they
should be required upon Oath: After
which, if the said *Vice-Admiral* shall upon
his Visits find false, or partial, he should
send to the *Quarter Sessions* next, his In-
for-

formation of that Officer's Perjury, under Hand and Seal, to the *Clerk of the Peace*, who should file the said Information against that *Church-warden*, or *Overseer of the Poor*, and proceed against him, in behalf of the *King*, as for Perjury, and punished by the Judgment of the *Bench*. If the Laws extant, are not sufficient to impower the *Lord High Admiral* to do these things, as here mentioned, there might be a Clause added to his Power, as the *King* and *Parliament* shall think meet, for the better governing of the *Maritime Affairs*; by which Methods aforesaid, being duly observed, and kept, it would cost the *King* for keeping the said Office, but a small matter, which would soon be saved, in the great Expences for *Pressing of Men*; beside the great Abuses done in the *Countrys*; be prevented, if the *Vice-Admirals* be good Men. Also, if the said Law were, That if any Parish shall Conceal any one between the said *Sessions*,

and summoned, and not bring him forth, That for every Man so Concealed, and proved by the Oath of one Man, That he was in the Parish, by the space of Twenty four Hours, and not seized by any of the Parish, then the *Vice-Admiral's Deputy*, shall take Distress upon the said *Churchwardens*, or *Overseers of the Poor*, for Ten Shillings for every such Man, and for every time so Concealed, to be born by the *Parish* equally, out of the *Parish Rates*.

I only add, That if the *Lord High Admiral's Warrants* to all the *High Sheriffs of England*, that they do send their Warrants to the *Constables of Hundreds, Wapentakes, &c.* and they to the *Petty-Constables*, or *Tything-men*, That they should make a like Presentment, *viz.* The *Constable of the Hundred*, should deliver it in every *Affizes*, or *Goal-delivery*; which Presentment the *Petty-Constables* should be sworn to the truth thereof, before

fore some *Justice of the Peace*, before the *High Constable* receiveth it, and then he should from thence draw one Presentment for the *Hundred*, to give in at the *Affizes*; and say, as from the *Petty-Constables*, under their Oaths, thus presenteth; out of which Presentments, the *Clerk of the Affizes* shall give the *Admiralty*, the needful Account, at the end of every Circuit, there to be entered into the Office aforesaid: For many Men, when War is, do betake themselves to live with their Friends in the *Inlands*, and follow their *Occupations*, and at the end of the Wars, do return to their *Maritime Lives*, or wait to make slips into *Merchant-men*; but this being duly executed by *Vice-Admirals*, *Custom-houses*, and *High-Sheriffs*, and transmitted unto such an Office, as before mentioned, and there well digested into Method, and duly kept; so it would enable the *Lord High Admiral*, at all times, to give the *King*, his *Council*, and

264 **Naval Speculations** Or,
Parliament, when required, a true, and
certain state of the Kingdom, as to *Ma-
ritime Strength*; and also enable him to
collect them from all Places, in little
Time; less Charges, and less Trouble to
the People, in their Disquiet of the
Country: So there might be made good
Estimates of the Increase or Decrease
of our *Maritime Strength*; at any time
to be gathered out of the *Ledger-Books*
of the said Office, and only Communica-
ble to the *Admiralty*; and yet farther,
at the *King's*, or perhaps the *Lord High
Admiral's* Order, Proclamation might be
made upon the *Exchange*, or put out in
Gazettes, Requiring all Merchants, Own-
ers of Ships, &c. to signify by their
Letter to the said Office where their Ships
were, by their last Advices, and whither
Bound, and where expected next, with
some Estimate of the Ships number of Men,
Burthen, and some value of Cargo; that
care proportionably might be taken, for
their

their Protection, and Preservation; the which may often prevent the sudden Seizures of the Subjects, and Wealthy Effects of the Nation; for it is not possible, that *Merchants*, &c. can be privy to the Intrigues of States, which ought to have their Paths in Secret and Select Councils. As for the Methodizing these things, I do not project; but only hint the Basis, and Foundations thereof; that the Superstructures might be raised thereon, to perfection, by the Skilful Architects of the Wise Legislators, and State Politicians of the Nation.

IX. *The Measures necessary to be taken, in our Present Wars with the French; and in point of Balancing of Trade for the future.*

And First, For War, it being our present Condition.

IT would be an extraordinary means to Facilitate our Desires, if we did bid at a large rate, for the whole subjecting them in the *West-Indies*; and for the doing of which, we should have an especial eye of Intelligence, whensoever they shall send any Succours thither; and if the strength of ours, already sent, were not sufficient to perform it, in *December* next, a sufficient Supply, with *Land-men*, and all *Military Provisions*, with *Artillery*, should be

be sent for the effecting it ; and never upon making Peace, should they be restored to any Command there, I mean, in any part of *America*: So would our *Colonies* thrive undisturbed, and be a mighty help to our *Navigation*, and as much an Abatement to them: For the whole Commands of those Parts, being once brought under one Interest, it would be like a well-twisted Cord, made up of many Threds, although some thereof were not of any strength of themselves, yet by their near conjunction, and twisting together with the others, all being twisted one way, acquireth a considerable strength: For the Interest of the *French*, in those parts, have of late Years thriven to a great degree, not only to the Extirpating of us out of *St. Christophers*, &c. but to the disquieting us through the whole, putting in for a large share thereof; by which you may perceive already, how pert it makes them, and gives them fair hopes

hopes of a large share of the Seas; the which, if longer continued, it would have a bad effect on *England*, I fear; they not only, by their Strength, disquiet us there, but also Countenancing, and Exciting the *Natives* to Arms, supplying them therewith, but also Assisting, Abetting, Instructing, and Supporting them with all Necessaries, to disturb, and destroy our *Collonies*; whereas, if there were no such Pretenders, that part of the World would be mightily Peopled by us, and be a Trade that would take off a vast Manufact from us, and maintain a great *Navigation*, which would be ready to assist us, in our *European Wars*, whensoever we should be put to it: Nay, in little time, the Trade thereof might be so increased, that it might take off the greatest part of our *Woollen Manufacts* in *England*, and Products of *Tin*, *Lead*, *Iron*, &c. especially if we addict our selves also to a *Linen Manufact*; the which we
may

may most easily, and advantageously do, as I shall hereafter make appear. Then, I say, we shall not so much abound, and depend on the *Woollen Manufact*, when part of our Lands, and People are employed about the *Linnen*.

I say, These Encreases of our *Collonies*, in the *West-Indies*, would be a mighty advancement to our Trade, by its mysterial way of work, and make our Bulk of *Marine Affairs* swell to a vast Quantity; which is the very *Strength, Glory, and Safety* of the Nation, as I have elsewhere shewed; and was also early perceived by the Excellent Sir *Walter Rawleigh*, in his most Elaborate, and Accurate Work, of the *History of the World*. I say, These things are of a mighty Consideration to us: So that if we do not timely make use of the Talent, that God Almighty hath given us possession of already, we may afterwards find it too late; and so by step after step, and slip after slip, let slip the last

270 **Naval Speculations:** Or,
last opportunity of maintaining our Right,
and Dominion of the Seas; the which
being gone, the effect thereof may be,
to be glad to enjoy the *Collonies*, and
Trade we have already acquired, and our
quiet at home; the which we must no
longer expect, than that it is according to
the Will and Pleasure of that Nation,
who is most powerful at Sea; one large
step we have made already in the *East-Indies*,
pray God we are not preparing
for another in the *Mediterranean*: The
Demolishing of *Tangier*, the *French* finds
the good Effect thereof, and we the evil. I
question, if all *Christendom*, did not grudge
us that place? But it's too late to repine
now: Wherefore it becomes us to lay
fast hold of those Opportunities God
hath given us, to maintain our *Naviga-
tion*; which is, not to let the *French* hold
one Command in the *West-Indies*, or any
part of *America*:

If

If any one should say, It is not to be done.

I Answer thus, It is much like the lukewarm, and evil Counsel, given at that time, about *Tangier*; that the cost thereof to maintain it, was more than the Intrinsick Value could be to *England*, and put the *King* to Streights for Money, and often need of his Parliament: The which, when I heard spoken, it made me fetch my Breath through my Back for Grief: and Answered, *That a Hundred Thousand Pounds spent more, were better than to lose it*: But I guessed it to partake of the *French Politicks*, as the Selling of *Dunkirk*; which Town, with *Callice* (which is kept from us, and so lately in our Possession) are the next Feathers, most needful for *England* to Plume them with, they being more important to us, than a whole Province elsewhere: I will not enter into the Praises of them, and the Advantages thereby that would redound to *England*,
left

272 **Naval Speculations:** Or,
lest I should be like the *Hunter*, who before he had caught his Game, took the pains to set forth the Excellent Tastes thereof, and the Ways of Dressing it, but never caught it: Wherefore I will say no more, but put a ——— to it until a fitter Opportunity: Only I will add, That they should not have the Command of any one *Collony* in the *Universe*, but what *Factories* they have under other Governments, which cannot be avoided, without Wars with that Government: And thus would I deal with them, as to their *Collonies*.

Secondly, As to their *Fishing* on the Banks of *New-found-land*, where they are become very numerous, and is their first, if not chiefest *Seminary* of *Maritime People*; who are extream Hardy, and Patient in Hardships, and Labour; and would be glad of the *English* Benefits of the Harbours there, and Protection in that Trade, and bring their Effects under
the

the *English*, and carry it in our bottoms, under us, to our *Factories* abroad; for a great part of them are also *Protestants*, and would willingly draw their *Families* and *Dependances* out of *France*, if they might enjoy the *Immunities*, *Profits*, *Privileges*, and *Protections*, as *Subjects* of *England*, if they were so treated; viz. thus, That six, or a needful number of *Ships of War*, were sent to wait upon the *Fishery* of *New-found-land*, *Greenland*, *Izeland*, and the *North-Seas* every *Year*; which should take all the *French* upon the *Banks*, and those *Seas*; and whosoever would be willing to mix themselves with our *Men*, to catch and make *Fish*, and be content to come into our *Bottoms*, and a like number of our *Men* go into theirs, for the *Season*; which *Men* of *War*, of ours, should be fitted with all manner of *Fishing Tackle*, and should make *Fish*, which should be for the *King's Account*; of which *Account* of

T

Fishery,

274 **Rabal Speculations:** Or,
Fishery, there should go a *Merchant*, who
should be a *Husband* of the *King's Fishery*,
and give an *Account* thereof, and be un-
der the *Admiral's Command*, and in the
Ship with him; who should, by his Com-
mand to the rest of the *Captains*, give
him all convenient assistance to further
the *Affair*, and go with them up the
Streights to their *Markets*, as usual, un-
der the Assistance and Convoy of more
Ships, to make a *Grand Fleet*, to meet at
such a place, at such Seasons as shall be
appointed for our *General*, or *Grand*
Convoy; who shall Meet, and *Rendez-*
vous at such times of the *Year*, and *Place*,
as hereafter shall more particularly be
shewed.

Now the *Masters*, and *Principal Men*
of those *Captived Ships* of the *French*,
I say, should be put on Board our Men
of War, and like Men of Capacity,
should be Detached out of the Men of
War, and there should they Fish, and act
all

all the Season, for the making of Fish for the Publick Stock of the King's; and should have like Encouragement in every respect, as the *English*, if they are willing to work under the *English*; and at the Determination of the Voyage, at their Arrival in *England*, they should be paid such Wages, as they were to receive in the *French*'s private Owners Service, every Man, as they were capacitated by them; and also the *Masters*, for what Shares they can make appear they owned, should be accounted unto them, at their said Arrival, if they will settle here in *England*, and use the said Trade; which Concerns of theirs, should remain in the publick Stock, for some time, as a Pledge for them, that they do not Desert when they have it; I mean, till they can give some assurance of their Fidelity, by getting their Families over, or by going another Voyage; or, some way, finding Sureties for their true meaning, otherwise to re-

276 **Naval Speculations.** Or,
main as Prisoners of War. Now, I mean,
there should be three, or five Honest good
Merchants of the *East-land Company*, who
should be Commissioned by the King, to
manage, and to Husband this Affair of
Fisbery for the King; And although the
said Captains be Commissioned; by the
Admiralty, yet they might be referred to
certain Instructions, which they should
receive from the King's Commissioners
for *Fisbery*; and such Commanders, Offi-
cers, and Seamen, should generally be
chosen; who have used the Trades; and are
the more likely to advance the said Affair
by their Knowledge, Diligence, and Ap-
plication; and the difference in their Ma-
nagements, would in a small time be com-
pared, and in few Years, advance it to be
a considerable Affair; and, as I said, the
poor *French*, who have been bred up to
it, be glad to shelter themselves under
our Protection; and every Man so gain-
ed from our Enemy, may be accounted, in
point

point of balancing of *Maritime Strength*, at four Men, and so proportionably.

Thirdly, As to repelling their Strength at Sea, by *Grand Armadoes*, and thinking them such an Enemy as will meet us, in a set and resolute point of Battle, as we have been used heretofore by others, I conceive, may prove a Mistake: My Reasons therefore are these.

First, That they have now, in their Equipment of this *Fleet*, skimmed, and sifted their whole Dominion for *Mariners*, nay, *Boat-men*, *Ferry-men*, and all that have used the Waters, that there is scarce a Man of that Nature, if I may go so near, that is left out of the King's Service; for they have used incredible Art, and Stratagem to bring them out; and they have lost a considerable Number by Sickness, since their Expedition out of *Ireland*, amongst which *Irish*, they brought much Sickness; they have laid by their Merchandize, saving a little in the *Le-*

278 **Nabal Speculations**: Or,
want, and have also drained the *West-Indies*: All this, if my Information be not false, (to the truth whereof I must refer you,) I say, If it be tollerably true, and will Fight us; it bespakes them rather of that Temper, that a *Marquiss* of theirs, about Ten Years since, was pleased to give our Nation a Character in Ridicule, in a small Tract, called, *The Politics of France*, presented unto the French King, but soon came into *English*; wherein he says, *We are a heavy, dull People, fit for sudden stroak, or present dint of War, but of no Pollicy to carry it on for any time; and his Master need not be at any great Expence to make us ruine our selves, by our own Expences; let him only cause us to Equip, and keep great Fleets at Sea; and in the mean time they would prey upon our Merchandize, by the Knights of Malta, brought with Privileges into some of the Islands in West-France, we having no Allies; and so goes on.*

Now

Now, I say, if he fights us with any considerable Body of a Fleet ; I mean, positively, and plainly to repel Strength with Strength, then I will revert his own Character of us, upon himself, and People ; *That they are Impolitick, and of no Invention to carry on a War of Time, fit only for a sudden Stroak, or, Sa, Sa ; their Circumstances being such, That if they fight but Sixty Sail of us, with much more strength, and get the better on't, if we behave ourselves as we have formerly done, I mean, with good Courage, and Conduct ; yet it would be so dear a Prize to him, that it were far more prudent for him to let it alone ; for he has no Stores of Masts, Yards, Cordage, Pitch, Tarr, &c. nor no more Men, nor any Allies for either.* So I say, That if he be so hardy, I declare him without Policy, for then he has done his *Maritime Work* at once, without hopes of recovering this Age ; whereas, if he does as he did the last Year, collect his *Maritime*

280 **Naval Speculations:** Or,
Strength together, and Sail a few Leagues
to Sea, to Animate his People, or make
some hasty Expedition into *Ireland*, or
Scotland, or Depredation on our Coast,
to fill us, and all the World with Noise,
and Rumour of his great *Armies* and
Fleet, and put us to vast Expences to
meet him, and in the mean time to neg-
lect our *Merchandize*, and starve our Fa-
ctories abroad; and stifle up, and de-
stroy with Fatigue and Sickness more Men
than any Enemy's Engaging would do us;
which is no small dispiriting of Men, who
meet no chearful Rencounters, either of
Prizes, Refreshments of *Foreign Countrys*,
and Vicissitudes of Affairs; but only
sharp Commands, Wants, and Fatigues,
Sickness, if not Death, and the painful-
est of Deaths, viz. to see the Picture of
Death so long before his Face, viz. his
Mesmates and *Comfratres* going day by
day before him, caused only by Want,
and Fatigue, &c. And when the *French*
hath

hath done his great Expedition, some such thing as I said before, and been a few Leagues at Sea; nay, perhaps, made the *Lizard*, or come up the *Chanel*, if the Wind be so that he may be sure we cannot find him; but e're we come where he was, he is gone into Port; and then the *Couriers* flies with the News, That he hath been out, but could not find the *English* nor *Dutch* to fight; so they are come in only to refresh their Men, and to take fresh Water, and was resolved within Fourteen Days to seek for them, and if possible, to find them; which Fortnight being past, and a Month after that (perhaps) we may hear, That the Men he had collected from all the *Sea-ports* of the Nation, are a Month before that time returned cunningly, and no noise made; every one to his Station of preparing for a Voyage in a *Privateer*, and ready to put to Sea; and in the mean time the *Seamen* which the *French King*

King keeps in constant Pay, have by **Michaelmas** laid up his Ships safely, and put up the Stores safe, not knowing when he shall have any more, and clean up a few **Fourth Rates** and **Frigats** to cruise about in the Winter, and his Bulk of Men who are all dispersed Home, perhaps have not cost him above Four Pounds a Man; and now even before our **Grand Fleet** is returned Home, and especially after the Seas swarm with **Privateers** and small **Frigats**, and to be sure all head **Lands** and **Latitudes**, where Ships usually fall in with, are well plyed by them; so our Merchant-Men fall into their Mouths inevitably, and thereby enrich them for all the Winter; and about **April** he sends to all the **Ports**, that a Ship stirs not out of Port but is Mustered by the **King's Officer**, where every Man's Name and Abode is put down, the which Registry they also have in every **Province**, kept by their **Intendant** or **Provost**:

But

But now Security must be given to return by such a Day from Sea, to that or some other Port, by the *Captain* and *Owners*; so that by the latter end of *April*, a Summons may come to have them lay up their *Privateers*, and repair to such Places for their Transport to *Brest*, and receives every one a Crown Conduct Money, and so to act over the last Year again; yet to make the Sham hold good for another Year, they shall advance up the Chanel, that they might be seen and known to be there, they make Depredations on the Coast on Shoar, but be sure not to meet a Body of our *Fleet*, that may or dares Fight them in set Battel, for there is Room enough in the Sea for such Shams. And now I will leave the *French Coasts*, and return to the *English*; where, if we thus Dance after this Enemy, before or about *Michaelmas*, we believe it is too late for him to come forth, and we order our Ships Home, and the bigger we lay

lay up, and leave a Squadron of the lesser to cruise; but they Fowl and Sickly, and the rest are gone to clean for a Relief to the others, which about the latter end of *December* are Relieved; so the rest are cleaned, and the Great Ships also; the Sick are put on Shoar and refreshed, and others goe home to see their Families, and the Ships are all Cleaned in the Winter in their Turns; and about *February* we begin to stir, and in *March* and *April* we scour the Land for Men; and of the same Men that went out the last Years Expedition, many are dead, nay more than by Fighting two General Battels in a Summer would have consumed; so by the middle of *May*, we may have Manned our *Grand Fleet*, and be ready to sail soon after to the *Westward*; and if we please may act over some things, varying, but a like in the Main, *viz.* That the *French Ships* be not hurt, but safely laid up with the Stores again, and that

that we have no Merchandize gone out,
nor home, and many Seamen captived
thereby; nay are brought to fight against
us by Stratagem, and have lost a great
many Lives, and spent much Treasure,
and disheartned our Men because the edge
of our Sword cuts not in Bartel: Where-
fore I would that this dodging Enemy
might be dealt with so, that he may not
by his Craft keep a Fleet, and preserve
it only to keep us at a vast Expence of
Lives and Treasure, and dishearten our
Men for want of Action, and vicissitudes
of Fortune, as I said before; and in the
mean time Starve our Factories for want
of Trade, so that we thrive not in Trade
abroad nor at home, while we are at
Wars with the Winds and Seas: I say,
let us and the *Dutch* Joyn, and keep on-
ly two good Fleets of *Thirde*, *Fourth*
and *Fifth Rates*, and in the Summer
time, some *First* and *Second Rates* for
Flags, &c. for it were well if no more
than

than three *First*, and three *Second Rates* were in *England*, and all the rest *First* and *Seconds* could be wished into *Thirds*, *Fourths* and *Fifths*, according to their *Costs*, of which I will say more hereafter. But, as I say, these two *Grand Fleets* consisting, *English* and *Dutch*, of Seventy Sail of Good Men of War, with as many Merchant-Men as could be Manned, to carry out and home our Merchantize, and so to take their turns, that when one Fleet comes into the *Downs* with a *Westerly Wind*, the other should be ready to Sail outwards: I say, Seventy Sail of good Stout Men of War, each with a convenient number of Fire-Ships: Thus, there should be built Thirty Sail of new light *Frigats* for Sailing and Rowing, with about Twenty Guns each, which should serve for Scouts to the *Grand Convoys*, for Intelligence for plying off head Lands, and certain Latitudes, to give advice to Merchant-Men, and secure

cure them from *Capers*; which by their Sailing and Rowing, being always kept clean for that purpose, that no Ship should be able to Wrong them in the Seas; also with the said *Grand Convoys*, should go some Ships Loaden with Materials for Fire Ships, that upon any Intelligence, that an Enemy is prepared to Attacque the *Grand Convoy*, then they should out of the said Store Ships, fit their Frigats into Fire-Ships, which would by their nimbleness do singular Service, and at their approach leave no more Men on Board than serves for a Fire-Ship to do service with; this Fitting, I say, may be done at Sea, and upon a very small warning; or at the last Port they part with, to enter the Chanel, &c. or where they may expect the grand Convoy to be attacqued; which place and doubt being past, they may reduce them into serviceable Men of War, for the Uses before: They being thus appointed, would be of

extra-

288 **Naval Speculations**: Or,
extraordinary use to the Nation: It's pity
there were not Forty Sail of them, some
of Thirty Guns, but no bigger, they
would be of mighty use to Ply off head
Lands in the Chanel, be Scouts on the
Enemies Coasts, and approach great
Fleets; Privateers would not care to
meddle with them, by whom they should
get nought but Blows, and Hazards of
the Fortunes of War: These, I say,
would serve for Convoys, for Colliers,
Coasters, New-found-land-men, and Ply
the Capes, and head Lands of the Trading
Places of Ireland and Scotland, that they
be not so infested with Pirates; serve to
attend our Collonies, carry Intelligence
any whither; they would be of wonder-
ful use: The neglect, and want of them,
is sufficiently experienc'd of late. And on
the other side, providing of Great and
Immense Castles of Ships, vast expence of
Treasure, constant, and growing Char-
ges, with little use to the Nation; of
which

which I shall speak more in the ensuing Discourse.

Now I now return to the *Grand Convoy*, of which Frigats, they should be accompanied with Fifteen Sail each; the said Convoy to consist of, I say, Seventy Sail of Ships, few less than Sixty Guns, and not above two of Eighty; but most of Seventy Guns, which will do great Service in General Fights, and dare lie by the side of any Ship, and be able to keep the Sea the Winter also, for the fitting out of great Ships, and laying them up again in four Months, is a vast Expence, and discouragement to Men; only serves to gratifie the Itch of Grandeur, in some Men, and does little more than what a Ship of Seventy Guns will do, who stays out two or three Years on a Stretch; then the Men would have a Summ to receive, and neither they, nor the Service be unhinged so often. Now no Ship should stir without the *Lands-end*, except for *Ireland*,

and

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with-

290 **Naval Speculations:** Or,
without the said Convoy, nor to carry
less than Thirty Guns, and Sixty Men; if
any be found otherwise, they should be
seised by our *Men of War*, or *Governors*,
and caused to pay a certain Fine to the
King, ordered by *Act of Parliament*, or
Council; and that this *Grand Convoy* do
call at certain Seasons, at least twice, if
not thrice in the Year, at one of the
Western Islands; but upon Recollection,
there being no Harbours, or Road for so
great a Fleet, wherefore *Lisbon*, *Cadiz*,
or *Gibraltar* is better; but *Cadiz* is the
most convenient and safe Road, where all
our *Merchant Ships* should have advice to
come to from all parts of the World,
who must come through the *Chanel*, out,
or home; which *Grand Convoy*, at their
coming there, and whiles they stay there,
should send out certain *Frigats*, and other
Ships to *Cruise* at certain *Latitudes*, and
head Lands, where *Ships* use to fall with,
and secure them to the *Grand Convoy*,
and

and if the *Portuguese* at those Islands should harbour any *French*, or on their Coasts to *Privateer* on us, they should be Warred upon by us both, and treated as open Enemies; the which would please the *Spaniard*, and cause them gladly to Entertain us: Then shall we not fatigue, and destroy our Men by so unhealthy stifling up, they being refreshed in *Foreign Ports*, and getting something, if not yet of experience of *Countrys*, and be made compleat *Mariners*, conversing through the World: Then also would we have some Trade go on, without so great Losses; and he that is strongest, to maintain their Trade through the Seas undisturb'd, would have the best share, and, in time, have the Dominion of the Seas; we having so lately let slip the Opportunity of a Receptacle for our *Merchandise*, as a Curb to all Trading through the *Streights-Mouth*, by the Demolishing of *Tangier*: The Convenience, and Importance there-

292 **Nabal Speculations.** Or,
of to *England*, shall I never forget, nor
easily forgive the Loss thereof; the Road
and Mould had gotten a great many bad
Qualities, when the design grew ripe for
its Demolishing, which before had as ma-
ny good, and was a means for their get-
ting of *Estates*, who were instrumental in
the Demolishing it, after vast Expences.
Mighty pretty. But, I say, having lost
it so, we thought to secure some place of
Certainty to us, about the *Streights-mouth*,
as soon as we can find a fit opportunity,
either by Marriage, or Wars; I wish we
had the like of *Tangier* at this time, as it
was at Demolishing, in lieu of a fourth
of a Million of Money, it would not be
too dear bought.

As for the *Corsairs* of *Algiers*, &c. in
whose Wars (if I do not mistake) the
Dutch dealt more thriftily than us; for
they always sent their Merchandize in
Fleets, with sufficient *Convoys*, according
to the strength of those *Pirates*, that if
they

they would at any time bid up for them, they must lay a good Stake for the Betts; and if they ever won them, they would be dear *Prizes*.

So I say, If ever the *French* would dare to attack these *Grand Convoys*, they should buy them so dear, that they should be no Gainers, and lose soon the Capacity of disturbing our Trade; for this way would force them to win what they get, by repelling Strength with Strength; the which being thus put into the Balances of War, they must needs prove too light for us both, if I am not mightily out in my Computation.

Moreover, if they should bid up for a Surprise, there is large room in the Seas, and variableness of *Winds* for to prove the Surprisers surprised, and they be at equal Charges. I say, I do rather commend the former Proceedings of the *Dutch* in their Wars with the *Algerines*, and their *Corfairs* of the *Mediterranean*, by Con-

294 **Nabal Speculations**: Or,
voys, than ours by keeping a Fleet to
wait their Motions; if their Charges and
ours were computed therein, I doubt, we
should be found much to exceed them:
Indeed we may have done them more Da-
mages, but have received far greater Los-
ses in our *Merchandises*: So that I must
needs say, That the most Frugal way of
Wars, and the most certain to avoid the
Policies and Stratagems of our Enemies,
that they do not put upon us; and where
fewest Accidents do attend our Losses,
must needs be the best proceeding with
any Enemy in Point of Management of
War.

But this general way of Management,
may admit of particular Exceptions, if
they alter their *Measures*, or *Circumstan-
ces*; which part of Frugality leads me to
say more thereto, than what I have alrea-
dy said; which is, That we have laid out
too much Treasure in building too many
great

great Ships of the the First and Second Rates, with large Expences of adorning, by *Carving*, *Gilding*, and *Painting*, as I have before hinted; which great Ships lie by, and are maintained at vast Expences, and serve but very seldom, or rarely for the Defence of the *Nation*, and Preservation of our *Merchandize* in Foreign Parts, they being not fit for all *Voyages*, nor all *Seas*; and whensoever they are used, they are attended with double and treble accidents of War for loss, and not to equal advantages to the strength of the *Navy*, proportionable to the costs, and of Men required; as for example:

A Ship of One Hundred Guns, shall carry near One Thousand Men, and Two Ships of Seventy Guns each, or Four of Forty Six Guns, or Seven of Thirty Two Guns each, and are not full the Charges, of one of those great Ships, and they are
not

296 **Naval Speculations:** Or,
not liable to the Hazard and Casualties of
War or *Seas*, as they are: I might com-
pute the Accident to be Ten time less of
the Smaller, and Ten times more of Use.
I would fain know of any one, whether
one of Seventy, one of Forty Six, and
two of Thirty Two Guns, were not Ten
times oftner in Service to the Nation,
and Ten times less Accidents attend-
ing them at Sea, and yet of less Cost
to the Nation: Then may I conclude
there is now near Sixteen Sail of great
Ships which are under the said Cir-
cumstances to the Nation, and are for
maintainance constantly every Year, at
near Forty Thousand Pounds cost lying
still; wherefore I cannot commend the
building and repairing of some of them
fallen into decay; but to let the application
be to the multiplying of Ships of the lesser
Ranks; the which expences will be of
Ten times the service to the Nation, as
before proved, and not to forget to save
one.

one *Fifth Rate*, out of a *First Rates* Carving, Gilding and Painting; for the Ships need no more adorning, than what is of use for Fighting; only some Ships might be kept adorned and beautified for Transportation of *Princes* or *Ambassadors*, &c. as Ships for *State*; so was it heretofore, but of late Years we have run to a strange profuseness: For great *Shipwrights* have created us great Ships, or rather great Ships created *Shipwrights*; it being a time now to turn Frugal the right way, for lately the pretence for Frugality was lent to the retrenching of the Poor, needy, standing Officers in their Pay, and exacting of unreasonable and unknown duty from them, void of serviceableness to the *King*, and run the Treasure away by great Contracts secretly and cunningly carried, and the main point of keeping the *Navy* ready and well prepared with able and well appointed Officers, for the defence

298 **Nabal Speculations** (Or, defence and safety of the Honour and Wealth of the Nation, and at the most Frugal rates for the ease of the King and People, was made even as a screw that is made for to turn the wrong way, and screw against the Sun, and in the Interim, our *Builders, Contrivers, and Ship-Architectures* goe over into *France*, to contrive or build them Ships of War, or what else.

So hoping I have said enough, to excite us to look a little to the Frugal part of the Management of the *Navy*, and rightly to apply the Treasure, and also to inspect what sort of Officers have been crammed into the *Navy*, and whether private Interest, Trick, and Design, have not been busie and prevalent through the whole Series thereof; and if it be found Sick and Distempered, perhaps some seasonable Pills of *Extractum Pilula Abdicationis* would do much hood,
Working

Working by Vomiting some Ill Contracted Pelf, acquired by contracting; and also Purging others from the Scury Dregs of private Interest, Trick, and Design; that hereafter it may be in a tollerable degree of Health, and sound Constitution, which is the *Summum bonum* desired by this Work.

A

A Ballance of Trade,
between FRANCE
and US, in Times of
Peace.

TR A D E between Nation and Nation is of that Weight and Consideration, to the Welfare, Safety, and Peace thereof, that very often bloody Wars are made, and prosecuted fiercely for the procuring and maintaining thereof; for by it Kingdoms and States become Opulent, and Populous, which is the strength thereof; and therefore, for the Preservation thereof, and that the Neighbouring Nations do not either undermine us, in our *Foreign Trade* with others,

others, or over-balance us in the Trade between us and them, 'tis necessary to say somewhat.

To these two Points I will speak hereof France only, and by them to grow Rich, Populous, and Strong; and we, in the Interim, either stand still, or decline towards Weakness, and Poverty; or yet, if we do neither, but increase our Wealth from our Trade with others, which proves gainful to us; and we are bereft of that Wealth by a Series of Commerce with a Potent, and neighbouring People, who bend themselves, by more than ordinary means, (I might say, Unrighteous, and Inhumane Policies, to enlarge their Dominions,) even like those Governments I have elsewhere spoken of: Then every degree or step we permit them to take towards it, will prove to us, like the taking out of one Scale, and putting it into the other, at the wrong end of the Balance, and so will it become a double
Weight,

302 **Rabal Speculations:** Or,
Weight, in point of balancing Riches,
and Strength. I need not Inculcate far-
ther the usual means by which Nations do
become Rich, and Strong; and thereby
do spread their Plumes, or Tallons, ra-
ther over their neighbouring Nations;
and, in fine, subject them to their Laws,
and Injunctions; which History doth
plentifully afford, whither I refer you:
But I will only give you one Maxim, or
Instance, of Accumulating Riches, it be-
ing the Foundation of Strength; which
Instance shall be in the more private Af-
fairs of Men, viz. Thus:

If a *Nobleman, Gentleman, Merchant,*
or *Tradesman, &c.* does in his Consump-
tion, or Expences of his Family, con-
sume or expend more than his either
Estate or Profits clearly brings in; or
that he does not make a due Calculation
thereof, and give a full allowance for his
Losses of Rent, or Moneys, by bad
Debts, Repairs of Lands, Houses, or
Da-

Damages of Goods: I say, if he does not give a full allowance, on his Computation thereof, but continues his Port and Expences to the heighth, he must of necessity, at the approach of those Accidents, be disappointed; and must inevitably fall into decay of his Wealth, and, in time, come into Poverty; which might be applyed to the Politick Bodies of Kingdoms, or Nations: For if a Kingdom, or Common-wealth, do by their Trade import more Goods into it, the which is therein consumed and expended in their Adornings and Luxury, than they do Export of their *Product*, or *Manufact*: I say, with whatsoever Nation they do thus Trade, they are *Loosers* by them; and the Overplus, or Balance of that Trade, must be made good with *Ballion* in *Specie*.

Again, If any Nation Trading to another, with *Product*, or *Manufact*; and that Nation do by their Laws, lay a hea-

304 **Nabal Speculations** Or,
vy Tax, or Impost upon their *Commodi-
ties*; so then the *Prince*, and *Publick
Treasury* of that *Nation*, receives the
greatest Gains by that Product, and Ma-
nufact, and has the Labours and Product
of the other *Nation*, to turn to their in-
riching: Especially if again in lieu of the
former Product and Manufact, they do Im-
port Product and Manufact from the said
Kingdom, or *Nation*, and do not lay a
like *Imposition*, that their *Publick Treas-
ure* may also receive a like Profit from the
Commodities from them so Imported,
here is an uneven Balance of Trade:
And yet more unevenness in Trade, is
when the *Commodities* of the one *Nation*
Exported, is only for the sustaining of
Life, or Provisions for *Military Strength*,
and what the other Exports is spent alto-
gether in *Adornings*, *Pleasures*, *Luxury*,
and *Debauchery*: This again makes an
uneven Balance in Trade, and tends to
the weakening and impoverishing of that
Nation,

Nation, that Trades for the Importation of *Vanities*, and *Pleasures*, and to the enriching and strengthening of those who Trade for the Importation of *Commodities*, which serves the Necessity of *Life*, or *Provisions of War*: In which there is a real, intrinsic value inherent, and a necessity thereof: Whereas the *Pleasures*, *Vanities*, and *Luxuries*, might better be spared; it tending to nothing, but the Softening, Effeminating; and Debauching the People; destroying their Prowess, and at the end will make them both *Poor* and *Unmartial*, and in time expose them to the *Insult* and *Conquest* of the other.

I remember, I have read in the History of *Anthony Duverdier* his Observation of the Antient and Modern Times; that whensoever a *Nation* hath been known to Imitate and Adore another *Nation* in their *Manners*, *Fashions*, *Diets*, *Sports*, &c. they have proved to be the *Insult* and

306 **Naval Speculations** : Or,
Conquest of that Nation : God avert his
Judgments from England, and give us a
timely sight ; for whenever we lose the
Dominion of the Seas, we lie the openest
for *Invasion* of any in the *World* ; our
Shipping being instead of *strong Garrisons*
in every *Province*, to prevent the sudden
over-running our *Country*, which *Garrisons*
others have, and we not.

Again, If two *Nations*, as aforesaid,
Trading, and the one Imports from the
other of its *Products* and *Manufacts*, in
such Sorts, and Species, of the which
they might supply themselves tollerably
well at home ; but they neglect it, and
send their Silver for the others ; which is
again uneven Balancing, and bad *Politics*.

Now, if I mistake not, our *Trade* with
France, for near Thirty Years past, hath
run with a very uneven Balance, *viz.*
The Importation of their *Commodities*,
hath far exceeded our Exportations to
them ;

them; and the *Commodities* we receive from them, as *Wines*, *Wrought-Silk*, *Laces*, and abundance of *Novels*, for Ornament and Pleasure, all which are paid for, by either *Bulloin* transported, or else transmitted by *Bills of Exchange* out of *Spain* into *France*, for *Commodities* vended into *Spain*, and the *Product*, or *Effects*, by *Money*, viz. the *Surplusage* of that *Trade* is effected into *France*, and hath been no small occasion of the *Growth* of the *Wealth* and *Strength* thereof, within the said *Years*: Had not this *Nation* had a vast *Trade* with its *Woollen Manufacts* elsewhere, it must needs have had a considerable apprehension thereof long since; which *Trade of Vanities*, if they had been Limited, Prohibited, or a great *Impost* laid thereon, what *Wealth* of *Bulloin* would it have caused to have remained in *England*; - nay, a *prodigious* quantity; whose *Expences* have been wholly *profusely vain*, and *debauchedly hurtful*, to the

308 **Naval Speculations**: Or,
People of this Nation in general, effemina-
ting and corrupting them in both *Military*
and *Civil Affairs*; and enriching and
strengthening the *French* by this uneven
Balance; the Superfluities of our other
Trades being turned to their Profit; that
although we had a great *Trade* abroad,
yet it has had a profuse Currant thereof
into *France*, like unto the Story I have
read of two *Spaniards*, who went to the
West-Indies together, to adventure for
Silver, intending to live there some Years,
and return into *Spain* with their Wealth:
The one when arrived, applyed himself to
the *Mines*, to adventure there for *Gold*
and *Silver*; the other he addicted him-
self to *Farming* and *Husbandry*, in *Feed-*
ing of Cattle, and *Tilling of Land for*
Corn: So the *Miner*, as he got Money,
came and bought *Provisions* with it of
the *Husband-man*; and when the term
expired, the *Miner* came home little the
richer; but the *Husband-man* very rich.

So

So I say, That although we have had a vast *Trade* for near Thirty Years past, yet we have spent a *prodigious* quantity thereof with the *French* for *Commodities*, which we might better have been without, they serving only for *Debauchery* and *Luxury*.

As for the Salt we had from them, which seems to be of necessity ; It might have been as well supplied us by the *Spanish* and *Portuguese Territories*, with what our own Nation could not have done : Yet great Improvement might have been made therein, if large Impost had been laid on the *French*, but the *Spanish* and *Portugal* Commodities are all Purchased with our Manufact, and at good Price, besides a surplusage of *Bul-loin* coming therefrom, and maintains a greater *Navigation*, which does all contribute to our *Wealth* and *Strength*, and tends not to the enriching of our Potent and Malevolent Neighbour ; which con-

310 **Babal Speculations:** Or, considered, is a thing of a double Consequence to us, even like a pleasant Plant bearing two sorts of Fruit, and therefore ought to be digged about, and dunged.

Now as to the *Linen Trade* with *France*, it might have stood well enough with us, if it had been evenly carried between us, as it had been heretofore, that our *Woollen Manufacts* did purchase them, and all other of our Trade with *France*; for very little *French Wines* were Imported then; but afterwards our expences of them grew to a prodigious quantity, and the Prices of them so enhanced, that we set his Subjects to Work on a vast Improvement of *Vineyards*, and greatly to his Inriching; and he at the same time setting to Work, and encouraging of his Subjects to the Improvement of the *Woollen Manufact*, and laying so great an imposition upon our *Woollen Exported*; Nay, they have vended

no small quantities of *Woollen Manufact*
to us.

So, I say, as to our Trade with *France*, the large Importations from thence, and the neglecting and debasing the *Spanish Trade*, have been a proceeding not worthy to be ranked amongst the Politicks, and therefore fit to fall under consideration for Redress; and finding our *Woollen Manufact* is done for Purchase of *Linen* in *France*, and that both *France*, *Holland*, *Flanders* and *Germany*, having advanced far into the said *Wollen Manufacts*, and must needs lessen our cheif dependance thereon: It would be very Prudent and Politick in us, to set heartily about the *Linen Manufact*; I mean, that sort wherewith we used to be supplied from *France*, viz. *Dowless*, *Lockrams*, and all sorts of *Canvasses*: The *Manufact* of *Paper*, we having made a fair progress therein already, and the advance of the *Linen Trade*, will also advance the *Paper*;

312 **Nabal Speculations:** Or,
for it is not Fifty Years past, since *France*
began it's gteat Improvement of the *Paper Trade*: Now as to the *Linen Manufact*, I argue thus: Our People, and chiefly the Women kind, by the Increase of them, and Decrease of our *Woolien Manufacts*, occasioned by the advance of other Countries, made there into, will not have Employment, to become so profitable to the State, as they might; for a great part of the *Linen Manufact* is done by Women and Children: Now our Lands are sufficiently apt to produce the plentiful growth of *Flax*, so would a great part thereof be Employed thereto; that Land that is most proper, *viz.* *Sandy-Land* for the growth of *Flax*; and as otherwise, by our Experience and Improvement we shall find out, and being Employed thereto, which is now either Employed to Pasture for *Flesh*, or to Tillage for *Corn*; we should not abound in Provisions, as before I have Intimated, in
the

the case of *Fishery*, or keeping of *Lent*; and should maintain abundance of our People therein, and preserve the Money in our Nation, that hath formerly been sent into *France* to buy it.

Some will say, That we can have it out of *France* Cheaper.

But I answer: It is now come to that pass, that we can make it near as cheap our selves, as they sell it us, for which we send ready Money; and if we do at any time send away *Woollen Manufact* for it, that by their *Impost* laid on it, we must make it here at so low a price, that our People must live at an exceeding low Rate; as also, the *Wools* must be at a low price, or else we cannot sell them any: Wherefore it behoveth us to lay a large *Impost* on theirs, whensoever it shall be permitted to be *Imported*; that our People might be encouraged to make it.

And

314 **Nabal Speculations: Or,**

And to promote and encourage the said Manufact, here should be a kind of a willing Constraint on our selves, thus:

Let there be a certain Sum of Money, raised over the Nation, by an Act, in the nature of a *Royal Aid*; which being collected, let it be paid into the *High Sheriff* of the County, as a *Treasurer*; and at the General *Quarter-Sessions*, held for the said County, let every *Hundred*, or *Division*, produce one sufficient Person, who shall give Security for the said Money, and take it for Seven Years, Interest free, upon Condition, That he will imploy the said Money, in making of *Lockram*, *Dowlas*, or *Cowras* out of *Flax*, of the growth of *England*; and after the said Seven Years, let the Money be paid into the said *Treasurer*, and he pay it back to every Person from whom it was collected, or to the Heirs, or Assignes of such Parties: Or else by another Act, continued for some Years longer, or laid out upon some
Pub-

Publick *Work-houses* for that same *Manufact*, by some Person, that that *Hundred* shall present, at a General *Quarter-Sessions*, to be intrusted by them for that purpose : And in case some *Hundreds* are not fitly situated for the said *Manufact*; or that they do refuse, or neglect, to present a Person to carry on the said *Work* at the said *Quarter-Sessions* : That then the said *Justices* of the said *County*, at the said *Quarter-Sessions*, may cause the said Money to be paid unto a Person of some adjacent *Hundred*, in the said *County*; who is, as before said, duly presented, to employ the same to the said *Manufact*.

And, whereas I have, in this foregoing *Discourse*, for the increase of *Maritime* People, which, by a sort of willing Constraint, are addicted to *Maritime Lives*, by taking all the *Male Children*, of *Poor* and *Indigent* Parents, and Binding them to the *Sea*, &c. So I here project, That all the ~~Families~~ of *poor* Parents, that are
Females not

316 **Naval Speculations** Or,
not able to maintain them, be also bound
unto these Persons who are intrusted with
the *Stock*; and there to be imployed in
the said *Manufact*, until they shall be of
the Age, as is directed, for the Binding
of poor *Children* in a former Act, *For the*
maintaining the Poor: And whatsoever
Parish, or Tithing, shall not present one
Boy, as before mentioned, or one *Girl*,
as here specified, at a certain *Petty-Sessions*,
held for that *District*, every Year: That
the *Justices of the Peace* of the said *Divi-*
sion, or *District*, shall present the said
Neglect, at the next General *Quarter-*
Sessions; and the said Bench shall make
an *Order of Sessions*, to lay that Parish, to
the next adjacent Parish, for to help main-
tain their *Poor*; which Parish doth pre-
sent above two *Boys*, or *Girls*, as is be-
fore expressed; the said *Justices of the*
Peace of each *Division*, shall, for that
purpose, at every General *Quarter-Sessi-*
ons, give in a *List*, or *Roll*, to the Clerk
of

of the Peace, of what such Children are every Year Bound out, which shall be Entered on a Roll of Record, to be kept by the *Custos Rotularum* of that County; which Roll should be duly called over at one set *Quarter-Sessions* in every Year, and that Affair duly Settled.

I do not herein endeavour to Dictate, or Methodize the way in particular, for the Act of Parliament; but I do only hint it, Rough-hne it out, to be Regulated and Polished by the Skilful.

Again, Those Men, Intrusted with the said Stocks, might be enjoyned to find Work for the Aged, or Decrepid, of any Parish, from whence the said Stock was Collected, viz. Such Aged as craveth Alms of the said Parish; and the Rates, and Natures of the said Works, might be settled, and agreed by the next *Justice of the Peace*; the Overseer of the Poor to take care for the same. to see it be done by the said *Justice* for the Poor, that they be
not

318 **Natal Speculations:** Or,
not too hardly dealt with by that Person:
And if the said Poor cannot do enough of
the said *Work*, at that said Rate, for their
Maintainance; then the said *Justice* to
order how much more the *Overseer* shall
allow them, towards their Subsistence;
by which Idleness may be prevented:
Notwithstanding there hath been a for-
mer like Act, for every Parish to erect a
Work-house for their Poor; yet that took
little effect, for that the Parishes are of-
ten too little for to erect a *House for Work*,
and no manner of *Work*, of *Manufact*,
was set on foot; so that that Act proved
generally to be of none effect in that
point.

A brief Summary of the whole VVork.

AS God Almighty hath made *Fire, Air, Earth, and Water*, the wonderful Works of his own Hands, in the Creation of the World; and therein hath put Man, and given him a Dominion over all the Creatures he hath been pleased to furnish his Immense Globe with, and given them all living Breath in Common; yet unto Mankind hath he given a more particular and inestimable Gift, *viz.* a Portion of his Holy and Divine Spirit, that by Wisdom and Justice, he might Rule and Govern the same: To which he has added (by the Writing of his own Finger) Laws of his Almighty's Inven-

320 **Nabal Speculations.** Or,
vention, to be a Guide and Pattern for
him: And also more particularly Inspired
Princes, Prophets, Priests, Evangelists,
Apostles, and Teachers, to promulgate
his Will; and yet more, that there might
nothing be lacking to compleat Man's
happineſs in this World, and in the
World to come, *viz.* to all Eternity,
and be left without all manner of excuse;
he hath ſent from his own Boſome, his on-
ly begotten Son; the Heir apparent and
Lord of the everlaſting Inheritance, and
given him to be a Sacrifice, to ſatiate his
juſtice, to wipe out all the Stores of the
Sins of all Mankind; and not only
ſo, but to amplify and confirm the
Doctrines of thoſe holy Men, hath pro-
miſed he will continue his Holy Ghoſt
to guide Man to the World's End; and
preserve him from the implacable hatred,
the Devil hath unto him: Yet notwith-
ſtanding, all theſe helps Mankind, by
the inſtigation of the Evil one, together
with

with his own evil will and affections, falls into the abominable Sin of Pride, the very sin that moved God to Disband and Expel out of his Heavenly Mansion, some of his *Glorious Hosts*. I say, it is this sin of Pride, by seeking for *Domination* over others, is the cause of those great *Devastations* of *Countries*, of *Blood shed* of Men, the one endeavouring by *Policy* and *Strength*, to gain the other's *Right*; not caring for God's *Laws*, promulgated by those holy orders of Men aforesaid, or by God *Incarnate*.

Wherefore it is of absolute necessity for all good Men, by Christian Policy, and united Strength, to resist the Proud; for God giveth Grace to the humble, to be content with their own, and to defend it; yet whensoever right is put into the Balance of War, God giveth it an Issue according to his Divine purpose; by which Issue he transfers Rights from the

Y

one

322 **Naval Speculations**: Or,
one to the other: Now there is not only a right of *Dominion* belonging to Countries, by their Divisions, and Subdivisions of Land, but also of the Seas; for every Country bordering upon the Ocean, hath a particular *Dominion* in the Seas, viz. to govern it, and to keep and preserve it from *Pirates* and *Robbers*, that Men might pass in safety, about their Lawful Occasions; and also, to take the *Product* thereof, as Fish, &c. as God hath endued it with.

Now the *Dominion* of the *Narrow Seas*, being from antient *History* always allowed and granted, upon all *Treaties* and *Conditions* of *Peace*, made between all the bordering Nations, to be the proper Right of the Imperial Crown of *England*; God having placed it an Island, in the *Deneatidan* Ocean, which makes the *Narrow Seas*, and stored it with *Ports* and *Rivers*, convenient for the receiving
of

of Ships, beyond any other Nation in *Europe*; and furnishing it with *Timber* and *Iron* of their own *Product*, for the building of Ships; and also, a People sufficiently apt for the same, as it were pointing unto us with his Almighty Finger, to Rule and Govern in it, which our former Princes have done without sparing Blood or Treasure to accomplish it: But now the *French* King maketh very large Efforts, to the bereaving us of that Right, and Pirating, Roving, and Ravaging in it, he having been increased in *Shipping*, *Navigation*, and *Wealth*, by our late Impolitick Proceedings.

First, by permitting the uneven balance of Trade with us: And

Secondly, By directing or suffering the changing the ancient and Expeditious Methods of the Discipline and Government of the *Navy Royal*; putting it into the hands of designing Projectors, to enrich

Y 2 them-

324 **Naval Speculations** : Or,
themselves, only confounding the Affair :
exhausting much Treasure, to multiply
great Ships of little use to our purpose;
and neglecting of lesser Ships, which we
now want; discouraging, and disanima-
ting, *Warranted*, and *Standing Officers*,
Mariners, and *Seamen*; by blind-folding
Pretences of strict observance of Duty,
needless; and from preserving the *Mari-
ner* from being rooked of his Pay, by ha-
ving liberty to dispose of it as he pleases;
for which purpose, he hath not been al-
lowed an open Market for the same on
Shoar, to bring it into Money into his
Pocket; nor yet on Board allowed a
Market, where more than one Seller for
Cloathing, and other of their Wants;
which Methods, I say, have greatly disa-
nimated all the *Maritime People* under a
Commission Officer : And, I fear, by the
Novels introduced, have brought Distra-
ction and Confusion on it, to the great
im-

impeding thereof: Wherefore it is high time, if it be not too late, to awaken out of this Lethargy, to recover our *Dominion, Honour, and Prowess*, before it be past recovery, now in this instant War with *France*; to effect which, the *Nation* must not spare Blood nor Treasure, although it prove a *Work* of time; and great *Maritime Expences* must be continued until it be gained; without which, no lasting Peace, or Happiness can be expected for us to enjoy; for the Sword being drawn by so many hands, to carve themselves a share out of this said *Maritime Dominion*, we are not able to judge, how Sides may be taken; or with whom we may happen to deal with, before the Seas may enjoy a settled Peace: Wherefore I employ the *King* and *Estates* in *Parliament*, to put the *Navy* into a posture of great and constant defence, to dispoyl this *Common Enemy* of

326 **Naval Speculations:** Or,
all his *Commands*, or *Collonies*, in the
West-Indies, and his *Navigation* of Fish-
ing on the Banks of *New-found-land*; but
first to put the *Navy* into its former Me-
thods of Expedition, near unto what
was practised when *England* did such
Braveries at Sea, as before spoken of, and
by expugning all the *Novel*, and hurtful
invented *Intricacies*; and retain only the
Laudable, which is the *principal* and *pro-*
per Work of the *Lord High Admiral*, or
Lords Commissioners, for executing the
said Office; by appointing, and choosing
Experienced, *Wise*, *Just*, *Valiant*, and
Religious Commissioners of the *Navy*,
Flag Officers, *Captains*, *Commissioned* and
Warranted Officers; all well approved in
their Principles, for the maintaining of
the *Monarchical Government* of this Na-
tion, both in Church and State, as by the
Laws thereof established; and to lay by
all *Uncapable* and *Irreligious Persons*, un-
just

just Cowards, Private-Interest-makers, Trickers, Dissemblers, Designers, Party-makers, Debauched and Disloyal Persons, to the said Government; and by inviting and encouraging all good Men, qualified as aforesaid, and setting of Just, Safe, Expeditious, and well experienced Methods in the Government thereof; affixing and establishing Rewards and Preferments, independant upon private Interest, Bribes, or immediate Superiors Commanding; and also giving them ample and full Instructions for the performance of their respective Duties; in doing which they shall be safe from violence, or wrong done them by their Superiors; not suffering Methods and Instructions to be either leapt over, or broken like Cobwebs, and they left to Despotical and Tyrannical Power: I say, the King Commissions the Lords of the *Admiralty*, under him; and by his Dictates unto them

from time to time, to Govern, Fight, and Manage the said Navy; and to perform which, they Constitute *Commissioners* of the Navy, to negotiate under them, and by their Dictates and Approbation, to prepare and provide Ships, Men, Stores, and all Necessaries, Provisions, Moneys, &c. and to Dispose, Account, and Order the same, as *Deputies* of the *Lord High Admiral*; having each his distinct Class, or Order, to act in; yet a certain number thereof confirms all Actions, *viz.* three of them, whereof one is needful to be the *Comptroller*, him unto whose particular Office, the said Matters do more immediately relate, whose Clerks, in each Office, are under their respective Inspections, and Directions for Dispatches, to keep them to their Duties; duly observing their Errors, in Methods, and Protraction, in Dispatches; yet not wholly confined to their respective Offices, but

to

to mark all Errors in all others, nay, of all Degrees and Orders of the Navy, under the *Lord High Admiral*; but if they are designed to live at ease, and let Business slide, and do Justice as the unjust Judge did, because he was wearied by the Complainant, that he could not rest, and no otherwise: If he let Officers do their Dispatches at their Leisures, Secretaries, Clerks, &c. do most of the business. I say, if their Actions are with too much Grandeur and Deliberation, and promulgate their Pleasures, at too great distances, and through too many Doors: And if they move in the Affairs, as some Country Justices doe to do Justice to their Country; for at their procuring the Commission, it was but to give them Authority to punish those that offended themselves, or Friends, in their Domestick Rights, or slighted their Grandeur; but to serve their Countrey, or take pains
to

330 **Naval Speculations: Or,**
to distribute Justice to relieve the oppressed, and restore Men to lost Rights; maintain Peace and Amity in Neighbourhoods, punish Malefactors and Offenders, and for doing this, and many more good Offices, spends his Time and Moneys at *Assizes* and *Sessions*, he never intended any more than to live well himself, and let the World Sink or Swim: I say, if such like proceedings be in the Navy, then I conclude it has gotten a filthy Disease, the *Lethargy*; and to awaken it out of its Drowsiness, there ought to be some sharp Applications: Wherefore I project, that there should be another Officer created in the Navy, *viz.* a Superfeding Officer, such as the French call an *Intendant*; but I affect not the French Name nor Manners, but the Latines or Romans, a Censor; one that should Censure all Officers in the Navy, under the Lord High Admiral, and be Commissioned by him, to

go and sit at all Boards, Inspect all Officers and Books, and observe their Methods and Practices in dispatches; and censure dictate, direct, and correct the Errors, quicken the Dispatches, hear all Grievances and Complaints, suspend all Contumelious, Negligent, Dishonest, Disloyal, and offending Officers; referring them to the *Admiralty* for their Appeal, whither he should transmit their Faults, in a fair written Accusation, taken before him, at the place by his Clerk, for that Purpose, where the Accusers and Accused (*Viva Voce*) should answer, and Oaths for Proof administered in Material causes; and should visit all the Ports, Yards, &c. and go on board the Ships, Flags, &c. and enquire into all Misdemeanors; and at his coming into any Yard or Ship, there should be a Signal hung out, that all Men may know that the *Censor* is there; and that there is free

332 **Naval Speculations:** Or,
free liberty for any one to exhibit their
Complaints, or Informations, which
should be received with all Clemency and
Mildness imaginable, and written in a
Book there, and transcribed fairly into a
Ledger-Book, by a Clerk for that pur-
pose kept in the *Admiralty Office*; called
the *Black Book* for some, viz. Offend-
ers, and the *White Book* for the Meritori-
ous; wherein the *Admiralty* may, upon
all Occasions, for laying aside of any
undeserving Men; see their former
Faults, and how many, and how often
committed; and for Preferment their De-
serts, and how often, and how long
waited for Preferment; here would be a
Mirrour for the *Admiralty*, and a true
Portraicture of all the Affairs ready at all
times before them; and may not, nay,
cannot be so easily misguided in so great
an Affair, if it be rightly managed, he
should be in constant motion, and soon
be

be at the Ports, Ships, and Places where he is little expected: And again, at the Navy, and Admiralty Boards, Treasury, Victualling-Office Board, at Pays, &c. he ought to have a good Sallary, and allowance of Travelling, Charges to bear his Port above the Malice of evil Men, with which he will be sufficiently embroiled, if he quits his Duty with Faithfulness and Courage; and therefore he ought to have great Countenance from, and free Access and Communication with the Admiralty Board at all times; then would Designers, Trickers, Private-Interest-makers, Imbezlers, Private Contractors, evil Officers and Commanders, pull in their Heads, and not dare to commit such Faults, knowing that the poorest Man may have his Cause easily scanned, and soon censured with equal Favour and Justice; and a Record thereof remain according to its Deserts, without travelling far

334 **Nabal Speculations**: Or,
far to great Offices, and when come there,
knows not what Door to knock at, nor
whom to ask for; and with an Answer
from the Door-keeper, That they are
not to be spoke with yet; or not within;
or that it is not the right Office, but di-
rects him to another; and there he finds
the like Answer: And so he returns wea-
ry, his Money spent, and no whit the
wiser: And perhaps for this Endeavour,
if it come to the Offenders Ear, he shall
be totally crushed. I say, this Officer
of *Censor* would be the very Vital Spirits
running through every Member of this
Politick Body of the *Navy*, and warm
every part thereof with the sweet Beams
of his Justice, and cause Men to come
cheerfully into the Service, and endure
the Fatigues, Labours, Wants, Wounds,
and Disorders incident to the Affair, with
all imaginable Patience and Alacrity; for
Justice would wait at their Doors: So
that

that I say, This Office added to some of the Regulations herein suggested, *viz.* courtailing of intricate Methods, spuring and moderating of Clerks, expelling the Monopolizing of the Sailers Markets for Cloathing and Necessaries, and relief for their Families, by having a free and open Market to sell their Tickets, or ingage their Pay; by taking off the Scandal and Abuses of Religion in the Ministerial Function; by having Moderate, Friendly Just, Sober Discreet, yet Absolute, and every way good Commands carried; it would produce such a Harmony in the Affair, that all good Officers would rejoyce together; strive to exceed each other in the performance of Duty; and the Sailer would prefer the Service, before any Merchants Service.

First, For that he is defended from all ill Men, from any wrong that may be done to him.

Secondly,

Secondly, That there is room for him to exercise his Ingenuity, Labour, and Industry, in Art, &c. by which there he has a fair prospect of Preferment to Honour and Wealth.

And Lastly, That he has a good Compensation of allowance of wholesome Diet, and large Wages, well answered to him; and in his Sickness Provision for him; and for loss of Limbs an Allowance, during Life; and in Cases of Captivity, or Death in Battle, some Benevolence for his Family: All which, I say, would animate and invite any Man that has any spark, or sense, of Grace, or Goodness, Prudence, or Honesty, or grain of Genius; to croud and screw himself into the Service, knowing that in *Merchants Employments*, he hath not a fourth part of the Chances for his good Fortunes, and ten times the Chances for his ill Fortunes.

And

And again, That he would by the Methods herein suggested, be without hopes of evading the Service, by shunning, or bribing of the *Press-Masters*, his Name, Aboad, and Voyages, too well kept account of for his Escape. I say, these things so well Joynted, Ferneered, and Cemented together, would make a beautiful Body Politick, which would serve the true ends thereof, *viz.* preserve and maintain the Honour, Glory, Peace, and Tranquillity of their Majesties, and their Kingdoms ; for without the prosperity of which *Navy*, as I said before, these Kingdoms can have no hopes of Safety, from being invaded by the Powerful at Sea : Their *Collonies* all destroyed, and Trade with it, and being an Island, lie sopen to all Invasions and Allarms of Enemies ; being divested of Fortifications in the Inlands, to stop the sudden Inundations of Foreigners : The

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338 **Naval Speculations.** Or,
Dangers whereof, I need not farther to
Inculcate.

And for the more ease of the Nation,
to bear these large Expences of *Naval*
Forces, and the exposing to loss the Lives
of so many of the Inhabitants thereof, I
have projected, a Thrift in the building,
and repairing of Ships, most useful for
us, and by sparing the profuse and pro-
digal Expences therein; and a right ap-
plying the Treasure, stopping growing
Charges, by discharging Men by Tickets,
if Money be not ready; the Money'd
Men would buy them with little loss, if
they may receive it again with Credit;
the Nation's Credit being past for it; and
the Sailor be plentifully supply'd with
Content; And for the supplying the loss
of *Mariners*, which must follow this Af-
fair, I have projected a sure, and never-
failing, Seminary of *Seamen*, to proceed
from the Male Children of Poor and In-
digent

digent People, and by the incouragement of *Fisbery*; and by putting into Merchants Ships some of the King's Children.

Lastly, For our present War with *France*, I have hinted Measures, whereby we might maintain our Trade, and repel their Power; I being then upon that Subject, when it was supposed, that the two Fleets were Ingaged; not knowing then, nor yet can find the Reasons for their bold Attempt; having the greatest Disadvantages attending them, and we the greatest Advantages attending us: That the Proceedings is a Mystery, an Abyss, and Occult matter to me; and therefore I will not farther wade therein: Yet I find no Reasons to retract my then Sentiments in the General, which must admit of some particular Exceptions, as Circumstances do vary, as I there have said.

And to preserve our Wealth at home, I have projected a Balance of Trade with *France*, by a due Estimation of their Goods to be Imported to us, and equal Imposts laid; and to encourage a *Linen Manufact* here, by the poor Females of the Nation, and to shun all Maintainance to Idle and Slothful People.

Now, I confess, I have let slip one main Matter to treat of in the *Navy*, viz. The Management of the Provision at Sea, but especially on Shoar, for Sick and Wounded Men, by Hospitals, and Receptacles for them, with Physicians and Chirurgions, &c. in which are large Expences, but not serving the Purposes intended, as I could wish it did, by reason of the Abuses, for want of good Order: I being streightened in time for the unhappy Success of our Fleet in *June*, caused me to be Com-
manded

manded to the Seas, which took from me the opportunity of discoursing the whole Matter, as I intended; and being now returned with Sickness, and Cold Weather, and short Days, am forced to bind up the Matter thus roughly and indigested; being a little ambitious to crowd it in, in time, if it might be useful to this Winter's Consultations, and Preparations for next Summer; but if God permit, and that it may serve for the benefit of my King and Country, I will make a Second Edition; wherein I shall endeavour to detect and discover all the Errors and Corruptions in the whole Series and Conduct of the *Navy*, what have been observed by me, or informed of by others, for divers Years past, unto that present time; for as it is a great and important Affair, and of vast charges to the Nation, and likely of necessity, to be far greater, and of long

342 **Naval Speculations.** Or,
continuance to be so: If we will procure
and maintain the Nations Peace and Wel-
fare, so ought it to be done in good
Oeconomy, by Authentick, Honest, and
Just proceedings, to make the burthen
as easie and supportable for the Nation,
as it is possible to be, *viz.* with good
and answerable Rewards, to all that shall
act therein; by being in Perils of Battels,
perils by the Seas, imprisonments by Ene-
mies, Fatigues, Labours, Wants and
Hardships, incident to the Affair; as also,
to the more sedate and quiet Justiciaries,
Rulers, Projectors, Overseers, Clerks
and Accompters in the same.

Now if it have happened to be run in-
to Errors in proceedings, and made di-
fficult to be Traced, the ways Occult,
and the depths not Fordable, by any,
but by Men of such Sizes and Statures,
viz. parties, the Mysteries acted secluse-
ly,

ly, the Commands arbitrarily and chargeably above Measure, and uncertain in its Actions; I say, if it be so, then will it appear so, in scanning the particulars, otherwise not: But if so, then may the Nation Groan under the heavy pressures thereof: Nay, in fine, sink under the Burthen, and never attain the end, for which so vast Treasure and Blood, was, and is to be expended.

Wherefore, I say, my second Edition shall be to detect and discover the Errors, if any appear, such as follow; by whome and what advantages have been made, by selling of Places and Preferments, by preferring of Parties, Sons, Relations, Marrying of Daughters and Relatives into the Affair, and twisting themselves into, and about it, even as the Ivy about the Oak; and then appear with most verdure, in the

344 **Rabal Speculations**: Or,
Winter of Affliction; when the Oak
hath no Leaf, nay, no Sap left, how
and in what time grown Rich; whe-
ther by undue Methods, Gifts, Bribes,
cunning and secret Contracts, Purloin-
ings, Embezellings or Connivings, or
by extorting Fees, by delays in Dis-
patches, by encroachieg Affairs to be
under their cognizances for Lucre, by
Intricate, New, and unpractised Me-
thods, &c.

Now if any Person is aggrieved at
their hard Measure done them, and are
desirous not to have it longer smother-
ed, or buried in Oblivion, or do bear
so good a heart to their Country; that
they would willingly have it prosper in
Peace, Wealth, and Honour, or in con-
science to Godward, not to conceal
such Abuses, as are best known to few
but themselves, and be like the good
An-

antient *Romans*; who, altho' *Heathens*, yet detested the Robbing of the Publick Treasury, or Converting it to private Interest, knowing it to be the Barque in which all their Felicity was Freight-ed; and therefore voluntarily detected and discovered, all that they found Guilty thereof: So that many of their great Ministers, Generals, and Commanders, were often called to Account, and forced to Disgorge their Ill gotten Wealth, as may be plentifully gathered out of their Histories; for had they not been publick Spirited as they were, and to the shame of succeeding Nations (Witness, after the Battel of *Cannæ*) when *Hannibal* came over the *Alpes*.

Surely they had never maintained their State against the *Carthaginians*, much more spread their Plumes over the

346 **Nabal Speculations:** Or,
the most part of the then known World:
In doing of which, it was generally
observed, That they exercised great
Justice in their Conquests; the which
was always acknowledged by the Van-
quished; and seldom but they were
Gainers by being Conquered: For al-
though they were in Idolatry, yet they
were great Examples of Justice and E-
quity, abounding in good Morality
in their Governments, and excelling in
Commands, and Feats of Arms, to the
rest of the World: So also in their
early Christianity, they were exemplar
in Piety, and Orthodox Opinions, to
all other Churches; insonmuch, that
they were often appealed to, for De-
cision of Controversies; the which was
a principal Ground for their Bishop to
assume the Oecumenical Title; but Cor-
ruptions, long since, hath despoiled
them of their Orthodoxy, and private
Inte-

Interest of their excellent Government,
and publick Spiritedness.

Wherefore, I say, if there be any yet alive, that bears such a publick Spirit as the former, towards his Country; and will advise me truly of any Matters of Moment, pertinent to the Purposes aforesaid, let them direct their Letter to me, (thus :) To Henry Maydman, to be put into his Box at the *Post-Office General*, in *London*: Whom I also advise, That they do pay the Postage, otherwise it will never come to my hands. The which I do to avoid the Tricks some Wanton Spirits will be apt to put upon me.

Also I advise, that they do mention what Directions I shall make use of, if I should have occasion to Write to them some farther Questions in the said Matter;

348 **Naval Speculations**. Or,
Matter; the which being done, I shall
give it a Faithful Quotation in the afore-
said Treatise, whose Title shall be,
(*The Naval Censor Informed.*) Wherein
also I will not again let slip, that Char-
geable, and Important Affair, of the
Provision for Sick and Wounded Seamen
on Board and Shoar; but I will discourse
it from Stem, to Stern.

F I N I S.

The most Material Errors by the Press, occasioned by the Author's being out of Town, are Corrected as follow, *viz.*

Page	Line	Error	Read	Page	Line	Error	Read
13	7	Imployed	Implied	83	11	appointed	appointed
26	3	Defaulted	Defalked	83	19	Boatswain	Boatswains
35	18	leaving	leaping			Guide	Guides
41	14	Drops	Drips	90	1	Vouches	Vouchers
44	15	Casks	Cash	102	14	to the Checque	So the Checque
44	18	he action	the action	194	12	Determination	Termination
50	17	Masters Books	Muster-Book	161	14	Festives	Effectives
55	2	Treasure	Treasury	202	4	Represented	Misrepresented
61	8	Office	Officers	204	10	continue	contrive
64	17	Pace	Peace	204	14	to Tantamount	the Tantamount
68	18	with every one	with every one	210	18	Protection	Projection
69	3	Swear	Swear	219	9	Pesting	Jesting
69	17	take effect	take effect	297	14	lent	bent
71	12	direct	divert	298	22	hood	good
81	14	Vouches	Vouchers	320	14	Scores	Scores